

PAPERCUTZ

PROUDLY PRESENTS THE NERVE-WRACKING,
PALIN-FREE NINTH ISSUE OF THE ALL-NEW...

TALES FROM THE CRYPT

BASED ON THE CLASSIC EC COMICS SERIES.



RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO WILLIAM M. GAINES, AL FELDSTEIN,
REED CRANDALL, JOHNNY CRAIG, JACK DAVIS, WILL ELDER, GEORGE
EVANS, GRAHAM INGELS, JACK KAMEN, BERNIE KRIGSTEIN, HARVEY
KURTZMAN, JOE ORLANDO, GEORGE ROUSSOS, MARIE SEVERIN, AL
WILLIAMSON, AND WALLY WOOD.

"CHICKEN MAN"

JOHN L. LANSDALE
WRITER

JAMES ROMBERGER &
MARGUERITE VAN COOK
ARTISTS

MARK LERER
LETTERER



THE CRYPT-KEEPER

"GLASS HEADS"

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OR



NO. 9
ALL-NEW!



TALES FROM THE CRYPT

IN THIS ISSUE:

"CHICKEN MAN"

BY LANSDALE & ROMBERGER!

FEATURING...



THE CRYPT-KEEPER



THE OLD WITCH



THE VAULT-KEEPER

\$3.95 US



09

0 71896 45306 5

THE WITCH'S CAULDRON!

WELCOME BACK, BOORS AND GHOULS, TO THE NEW AND IMPROVED CRYPT OF TERROR FEATURING MY CAULDRON OF CHILLS! IF YOU WERE EXPECTING THE DECREPIT CRYPT-KEEPER AND THE VACUOUS VAULT-KEEPER TO GREET YOU, THEY'RE HELPING ME COOK UP A REAL POT-BOILER FOR YOU!

>GLASP! GLUGG!
CHOKE!<

QUIET!

BONK!

PESKY INGREDIENTS! BUT WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE COOKING UP CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE HORROR FAN?

AND IT'S NOT **EC** GETTING CHICKENS! JUST ASK WILL BENDER, BETTER KNOWN AS...

**CHICKEN
MAN**





TAKE MY WORD
FOR IT...I'LL SELL
YOU A DOZEN FOR A
HUNDRED DOLLARS
APIECE.



YOU THINK NED
STUPID, MAN? NO WAY
I PAY YOU THAT KIND OF
MONEY. I GO SEE OLD
MAN SMITH. HE SELL ME
CHICKENS FOR FIVE
DOLLARS APIECE.



NOT ANYMORE,
I BOUGHT HIM OUT.
THESE ARE THE ONLY
LIVE CHICKENS WITHIN
A HUNDRED MILES
OF HERE.

MAYBE YOU
SHOULD HAVE
STAYED IN HAITI
...TAKE IT OR
LEAVE IT.



HAHAHA HA
HA HA HA

OKAY, I TAKE ALL OF THEM, MAN. MAGIC DON'T WORK WITHOUT THEM. I FIX YOU LATER.



THAT VOODOO NONSENSE DON'T WORK ANYWAY.

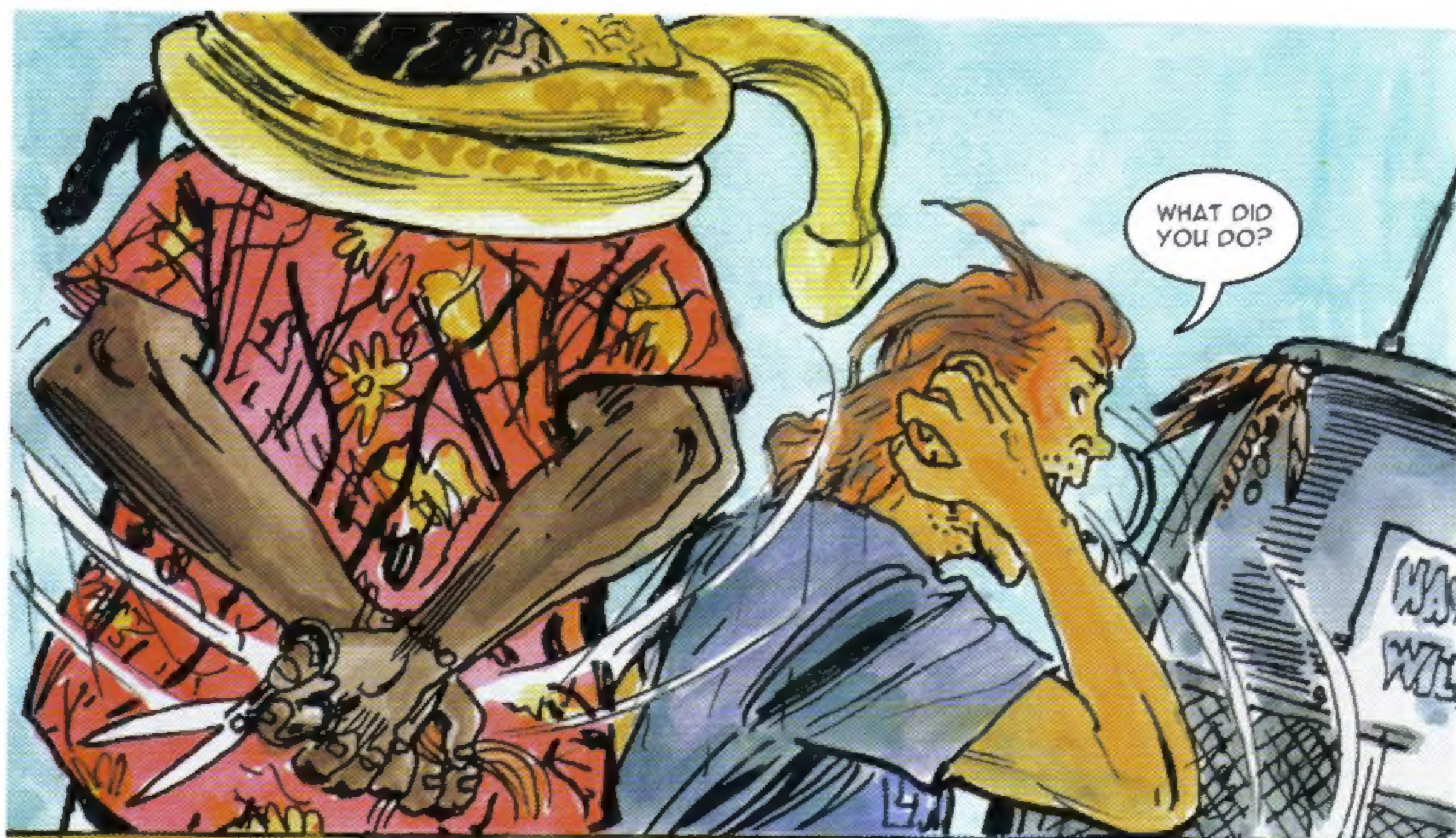
WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE JUST HOODWINKING PEOPLE. I DON'T CARE THOUGH, EVERYBODY HAS TO MAKE A BUCK.

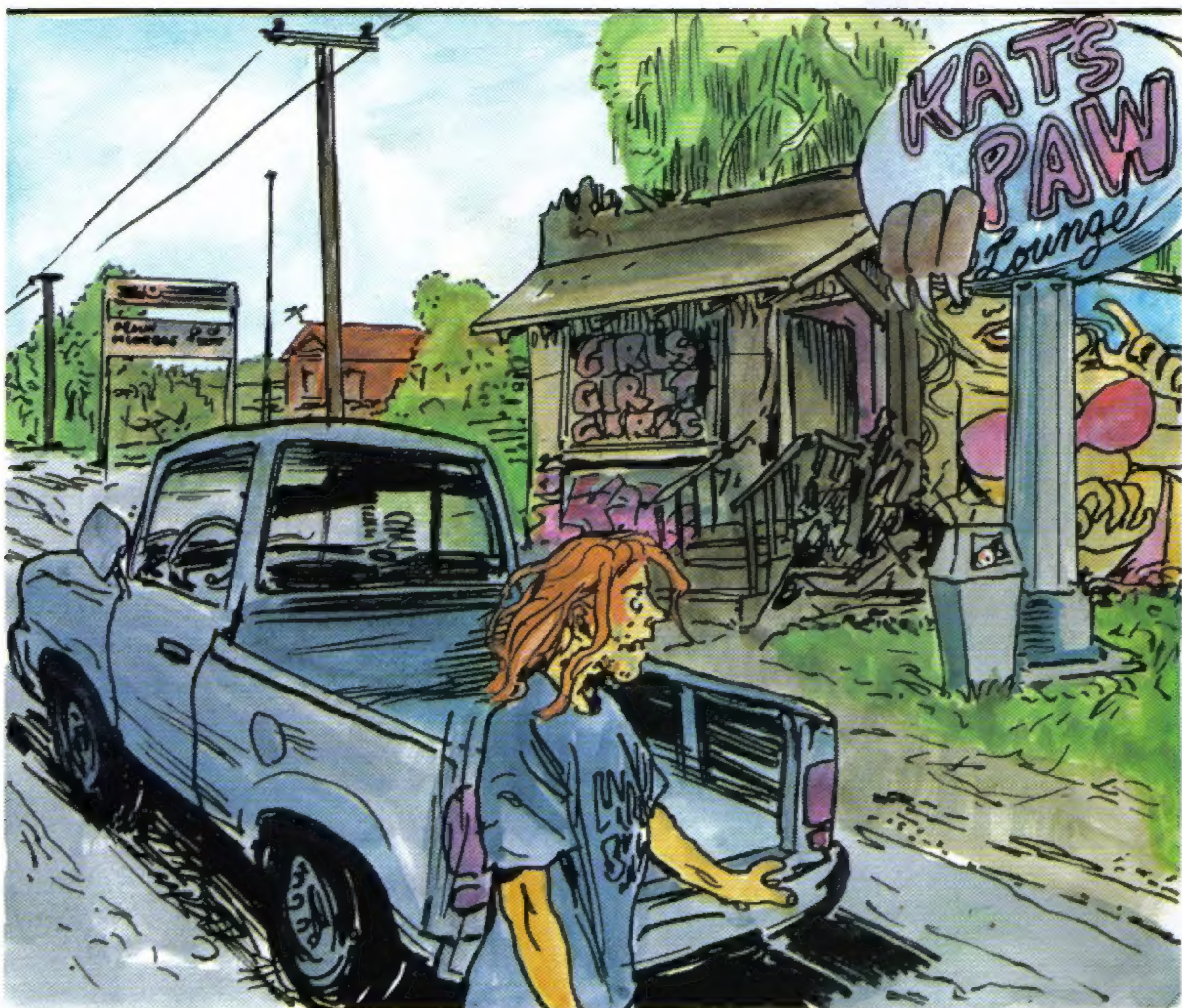


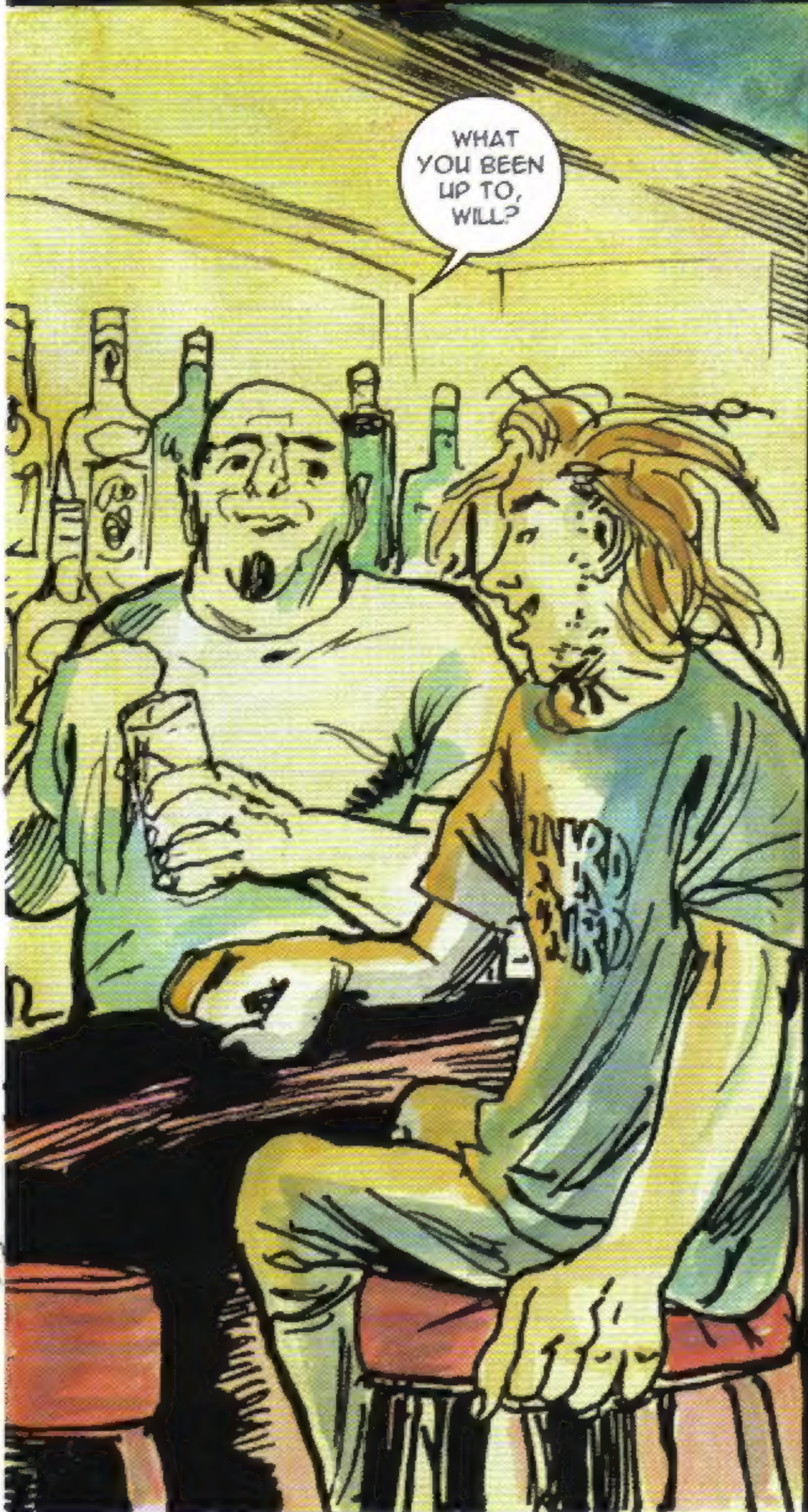
YOU KNOW NOTHING. I WOULD BE MORE CAREFUL WHAT I SAY, WILL BENDER.

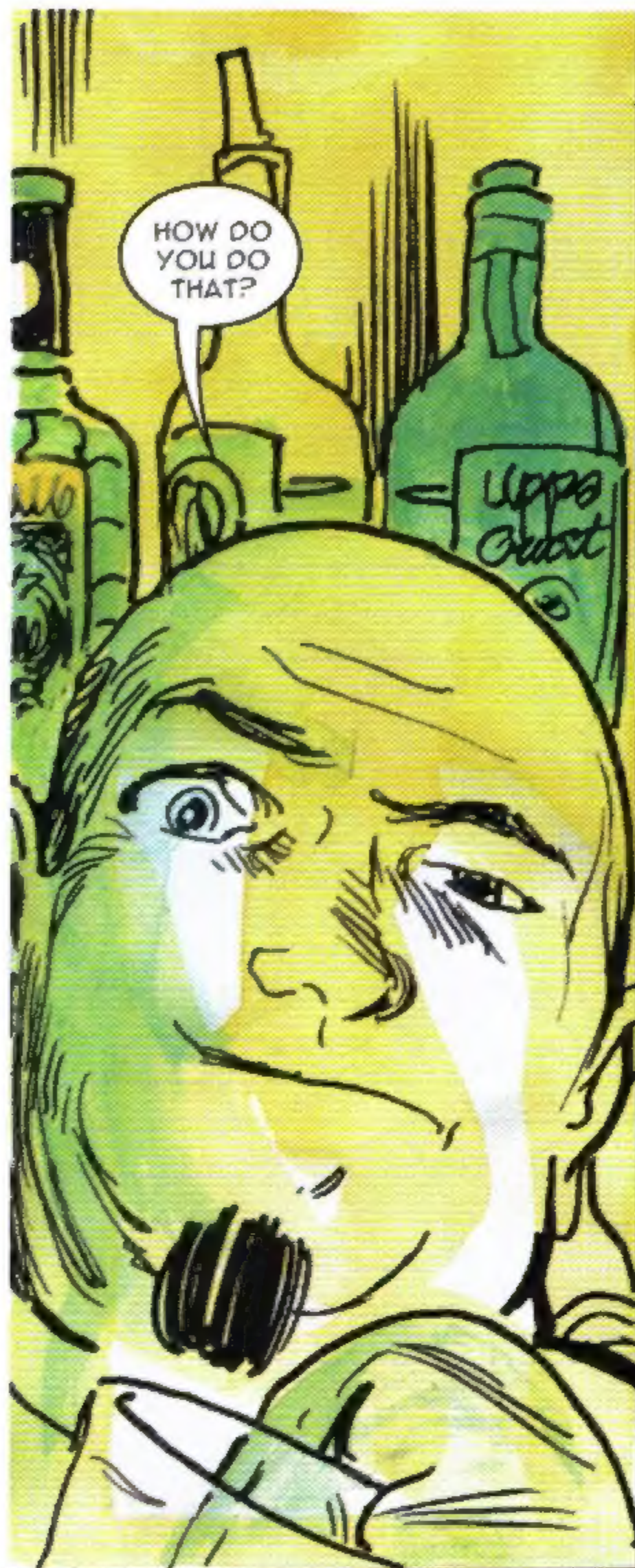
YOU MAY REGRET IT. PUT THE CHICKENS ON MY TRUCK.
















BOY, I COULD USE
SOME EASY MONEY
LIKE THAT. MY OLD EX-
LADY IS PUSHING ME
FOR ALIMONY.

THERE'S
MORE IF YOU
GOT THE BACK-
BONE FOR IT. HELP
ME GET IT AND
I'LL SPLIT IT
WITH YOU.



I'M ABOUT
READY FOR ANY-
THING, THE WAY
THAT WOMAN'S
HOUNDING
ME.

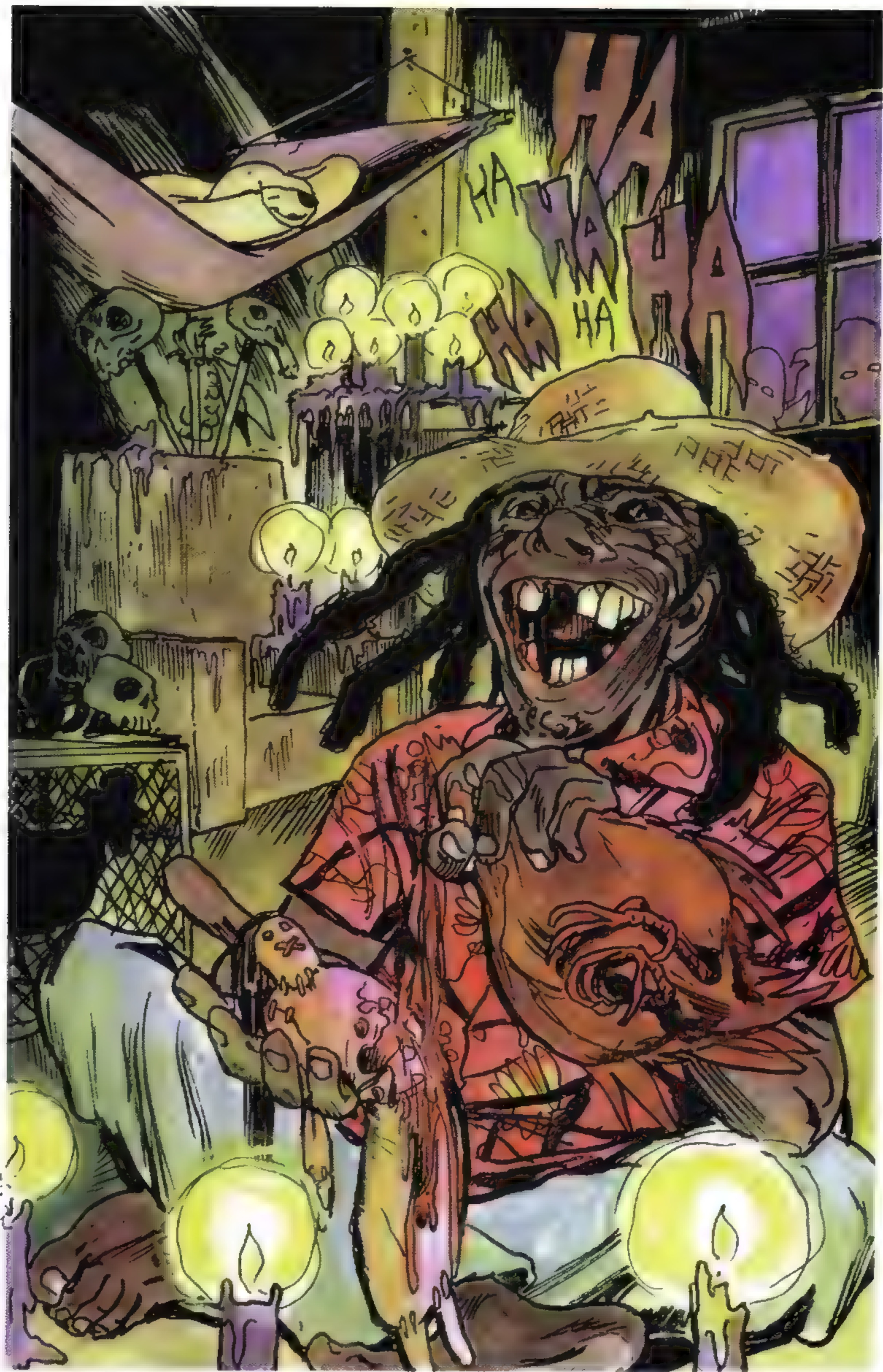


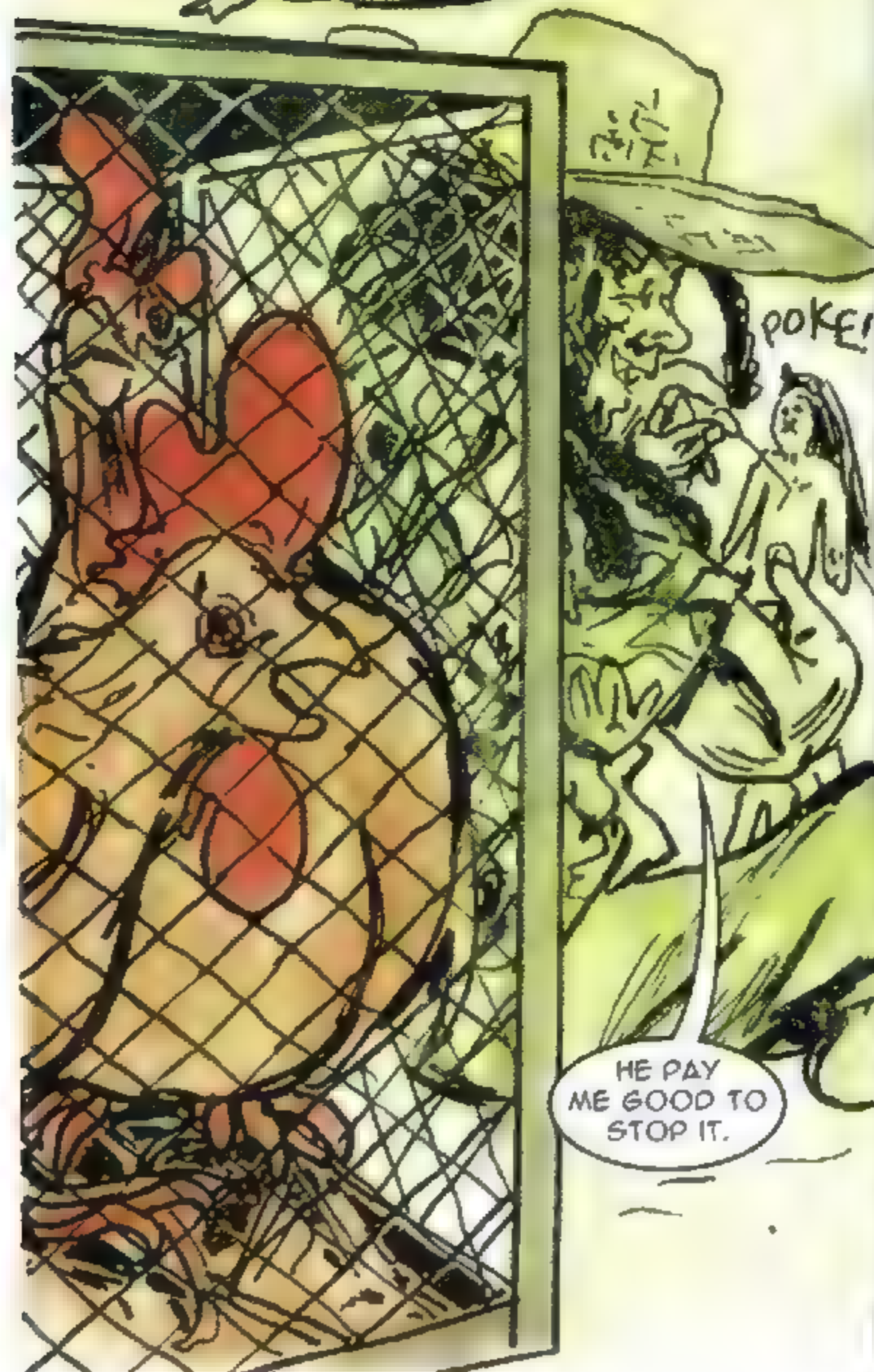
I SAW THE
MONEY THIS AFTER-
NOON. YOU GOT
A GUN?

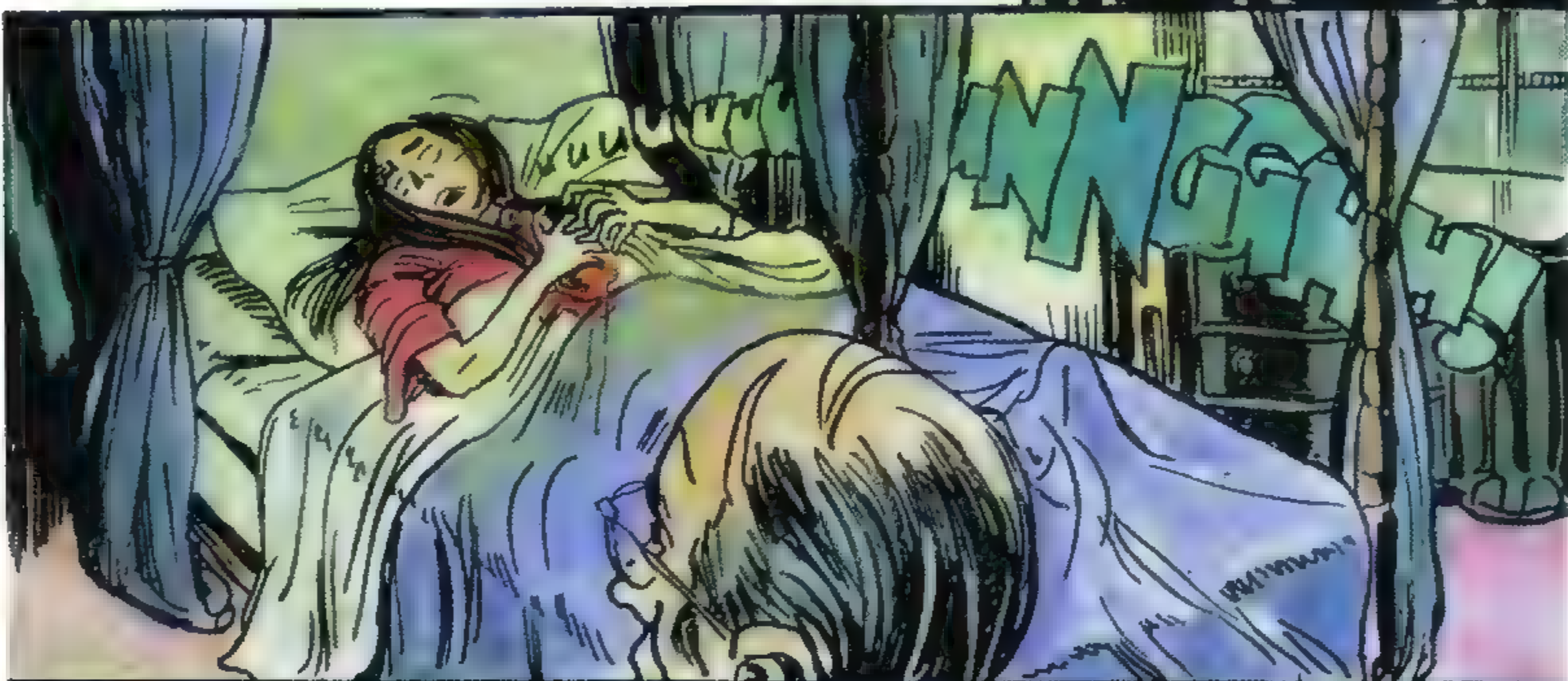
YEAH, I GOT A
GUN; THIRTY-EIGHT
MY OLD MAN
GAVE ME.

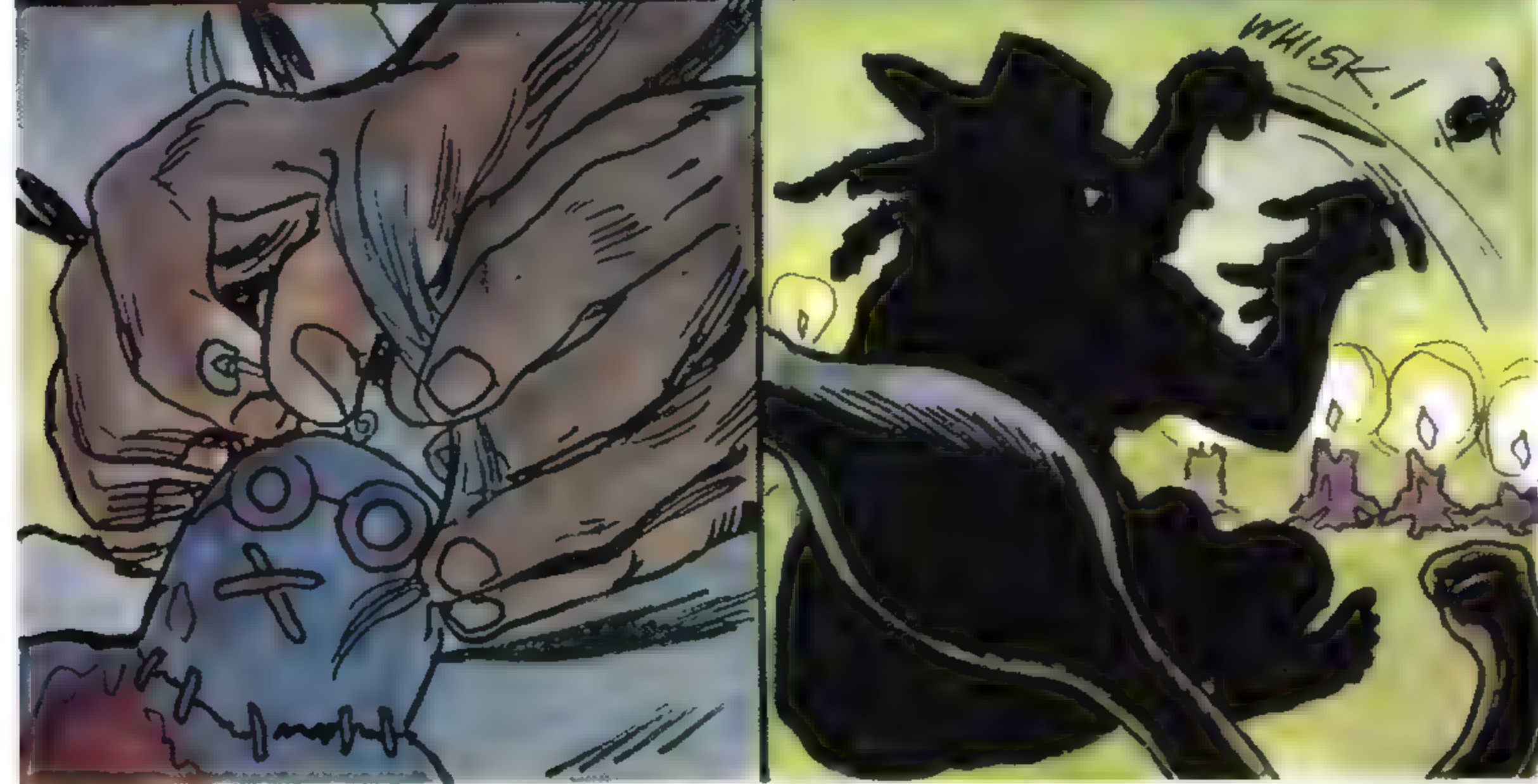
I KEEP IT HID
SO MY PAROLE
OFFICER DON'T
KNOW.









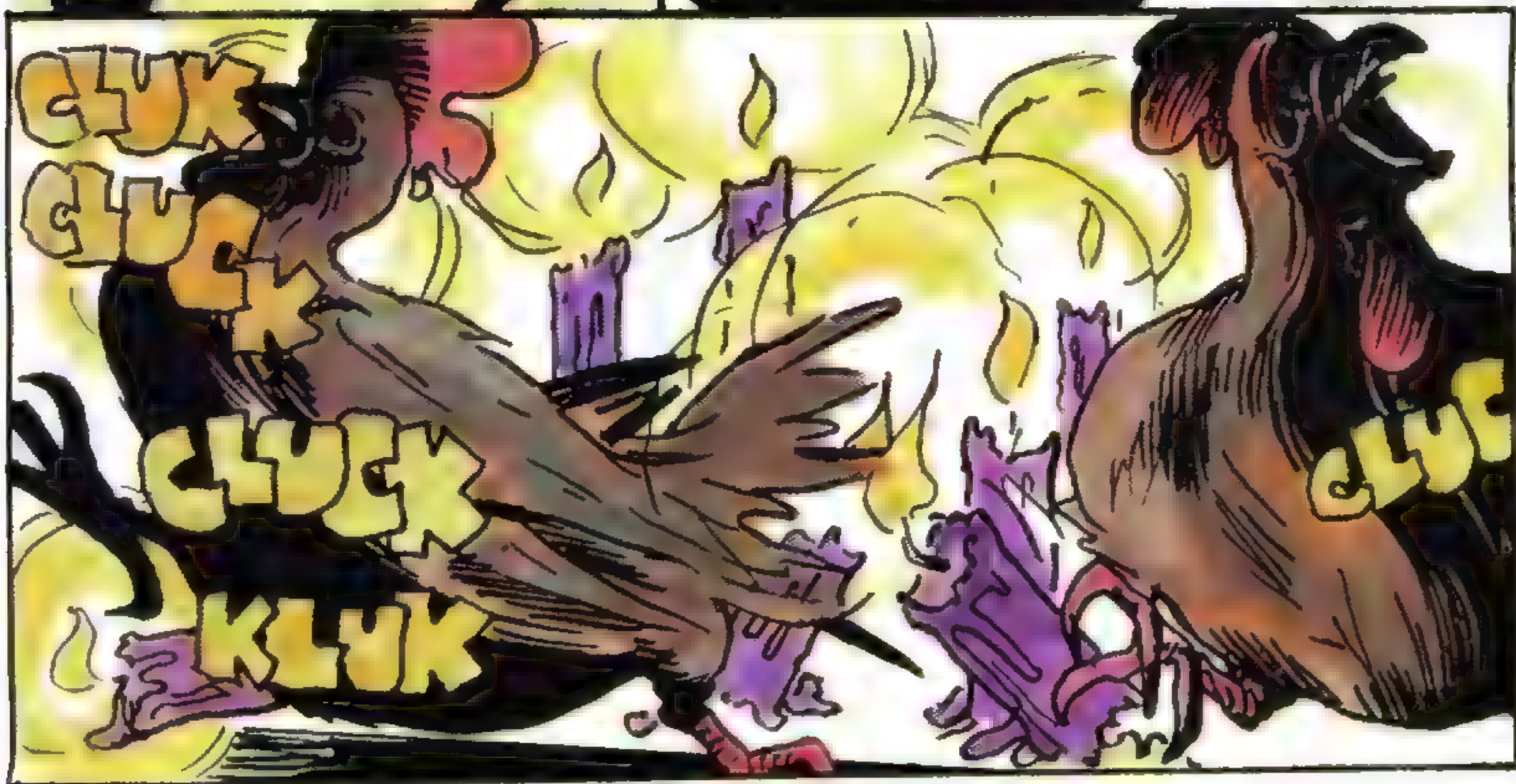
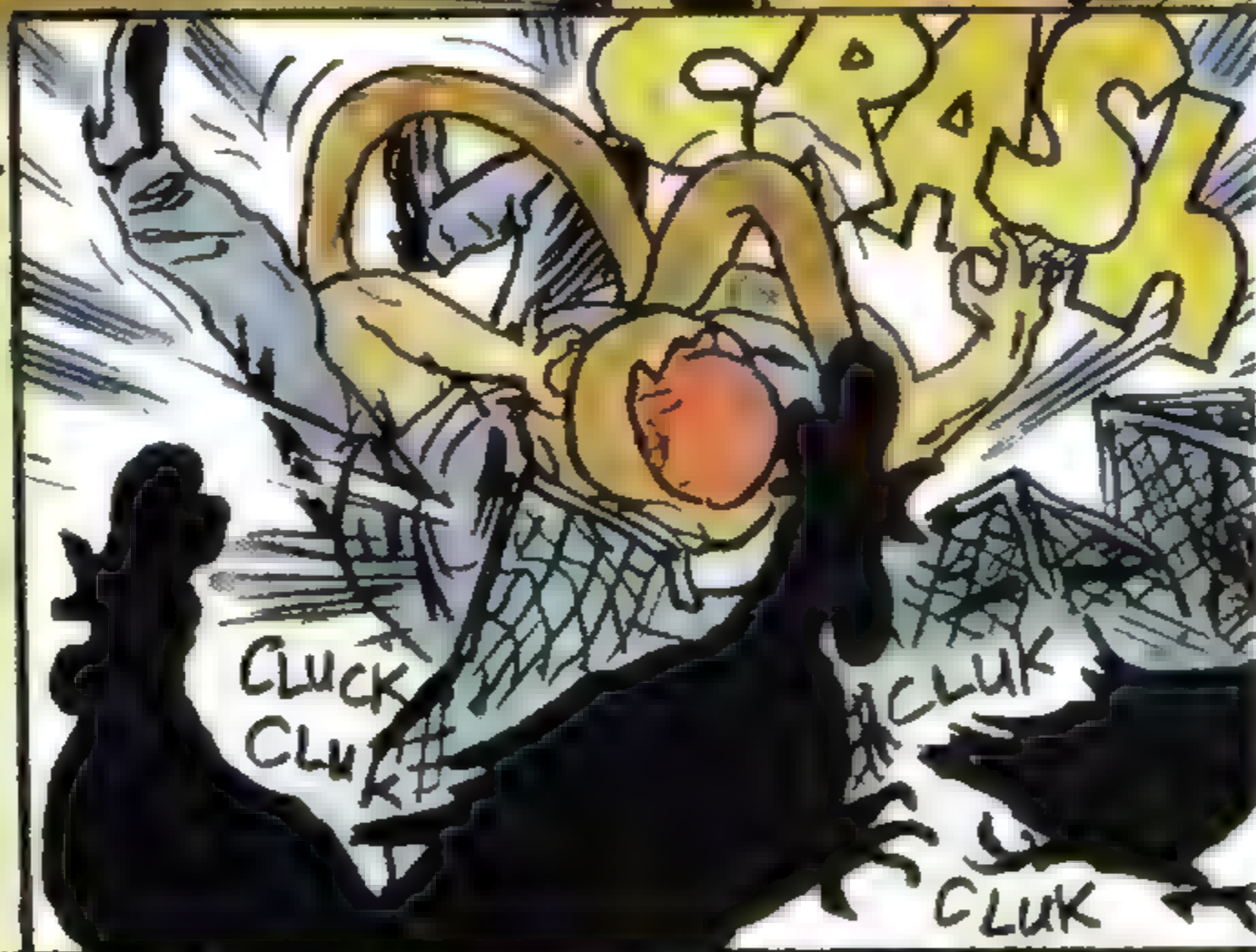




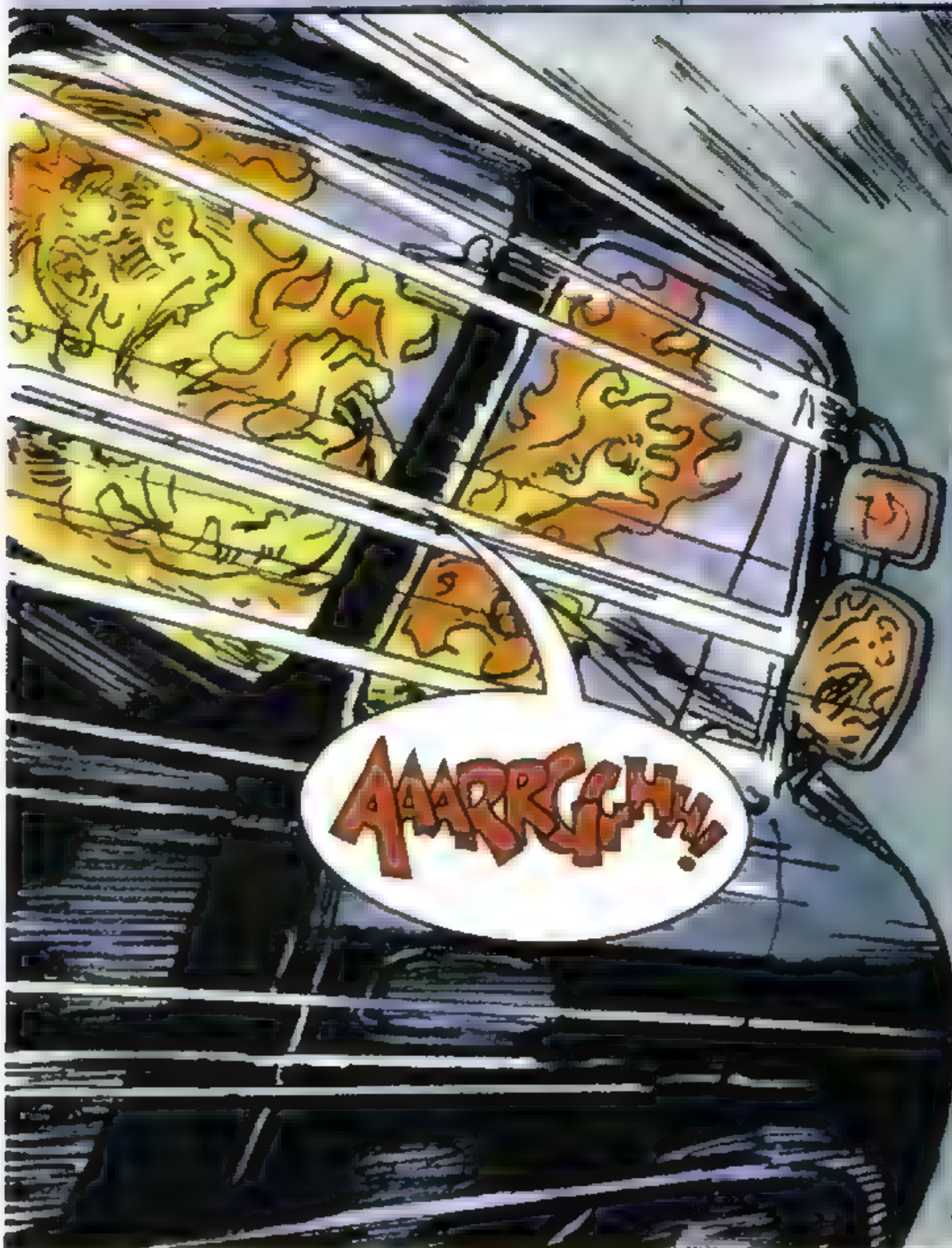
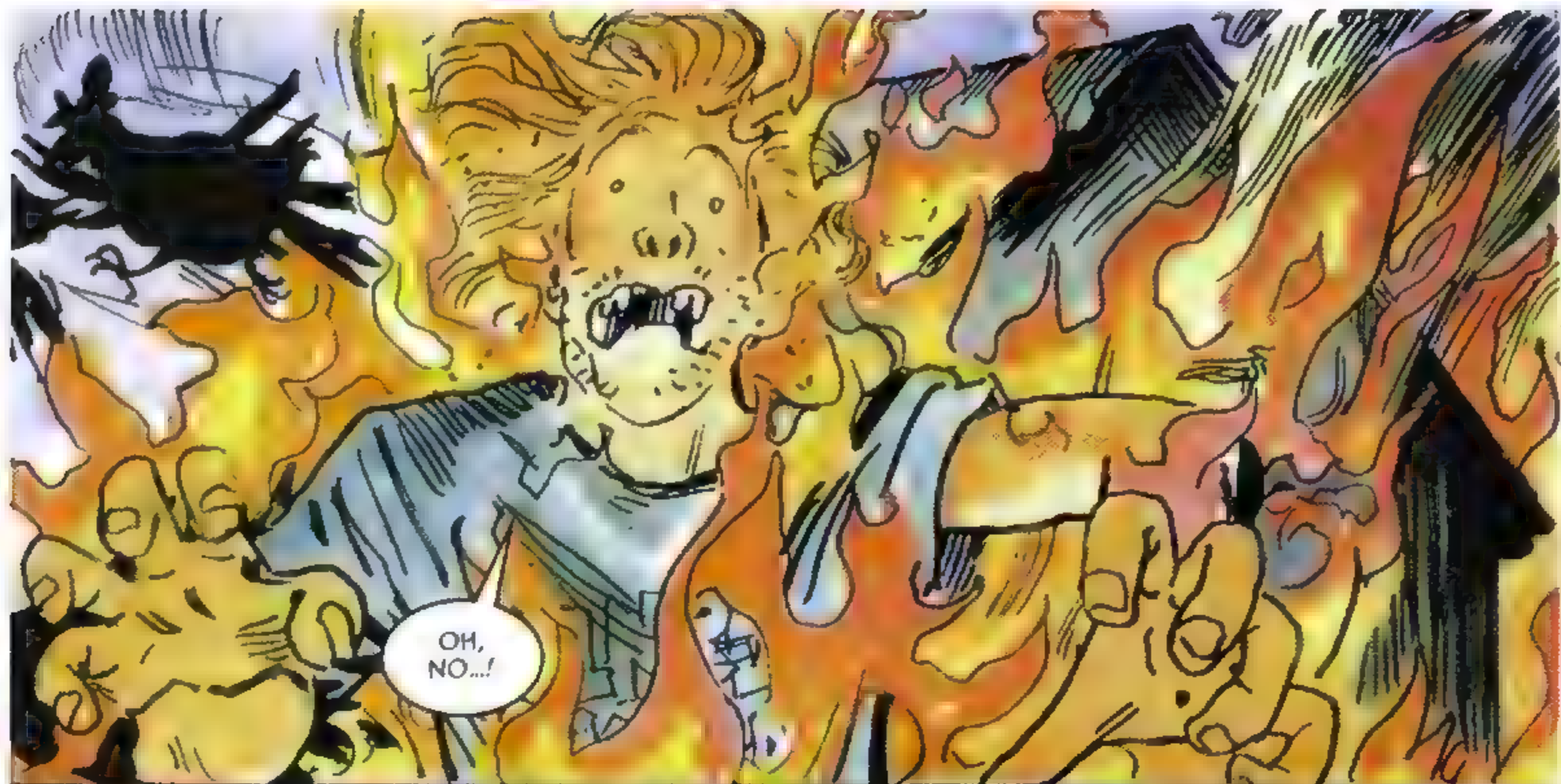
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT
I'M GOING TO DO, IF
YOU DON'T COME UP
WITH THAT MONEY.

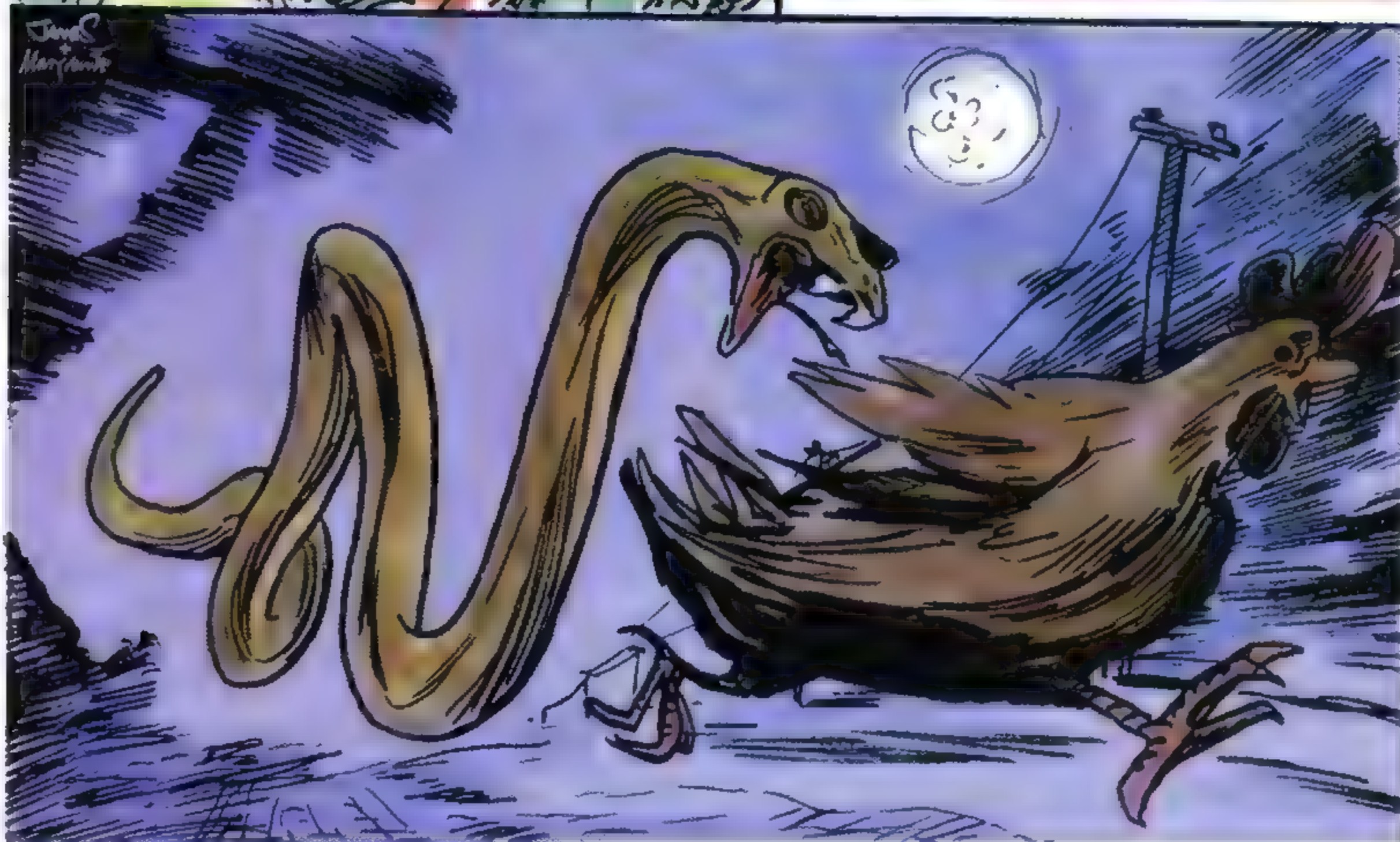














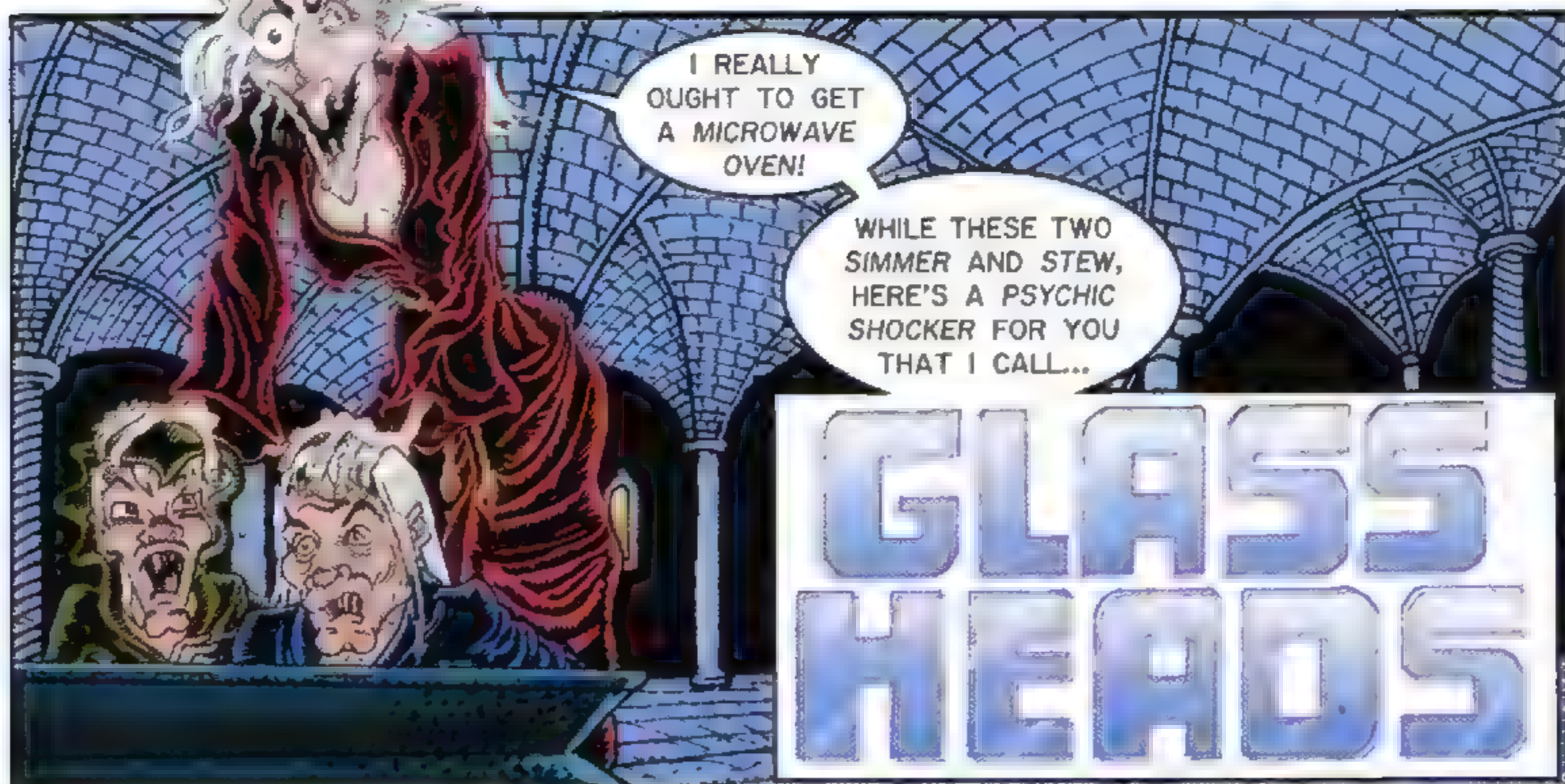
HEHEH! AND YOU
THOUGHT THE CHICKEN
CROSSED THE ROAD JUST
TO GET TO THE OTHER
SIDE! YOU DIDN'T KNOW
ABOUT THAT AWFUL
ONE-EYED SNAKE!



WE AGREED TO LET YOU COOK
DINNER -- NOT FOR US TO BE
YOUR CANNIBALISTIC CULINARY
CONCOCTION!!

HEY, I
SAID IT WOULD
BE POT LUCK!

>GASPI!<
>CHOKE!<



I REALLY
OUGHT TO GET
A MICROWAVE
OVEN!

WHILE THESE TWO
SIMMER AND STEW,
HERE'S A PSYCHIC
SHOCKER FOR YOU
THAT I CALL...

GLASS HEADS



GO HOME?
WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?
IT'S ONLY
MIDNIGHT!

FORGET IT,
CHANDLER. THOSE
OF US WITHOUT TRUST
FUNDS HAVE TO GO
TO WORK IN THE
MORNING.

YEAH,
CHANDLER,
WHEN ARE YOU
GOING TO DECIDE
THERE ACTUALLY
IS SOMETHING
YOU WANT TO
DO WITH YOUR
LIFE?



NOW THAT'S
JUST NOT FAIR.
I KNOW EXACTLY
WHAT I'M DOING FOR
AT LEAST TWELVE
HOURS OF EVERY
DAY.

OF COURSE,
THAT'S SLEEPING,
BUT...

YEESH!
YOU'RE A
DISGRACE TO
RICH KIDS
EVERYWHERE,
YOU KNOW
THAT?



A
DISGRACE.
HUH.

THERE'S
A PURPOSE I
MIGHT ACTUALLY
BE ABLE TO GET
INTO...

YOU.

PLEASE.

HELP ME.

IF YOU
CAN HEAR ME,
PLEASE, PLEASE
HELP ME.

YOU ARE
THE ONLY
ONE.





GOOD LORD!

WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?

WHA-HUH?



SINCE WHEN DO EMPTY TABLES HAVE A GENDER, DUDE?



YOU JEALOUS WAGE SLAVES TRYING TO PULL A PRANK ON ME OR SOMETHING?

WHOA... GO EASY ON THE CHAI RICE MILK LATTES, THERE, PARDNER... THERE'S NOBODY THERE!

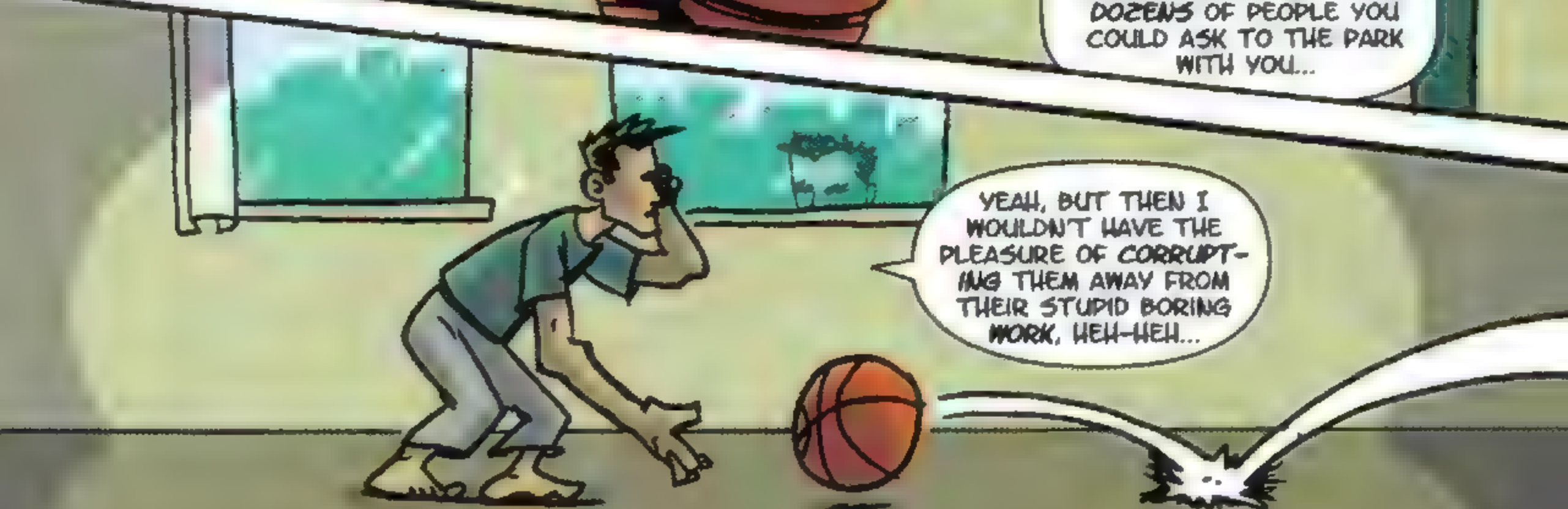
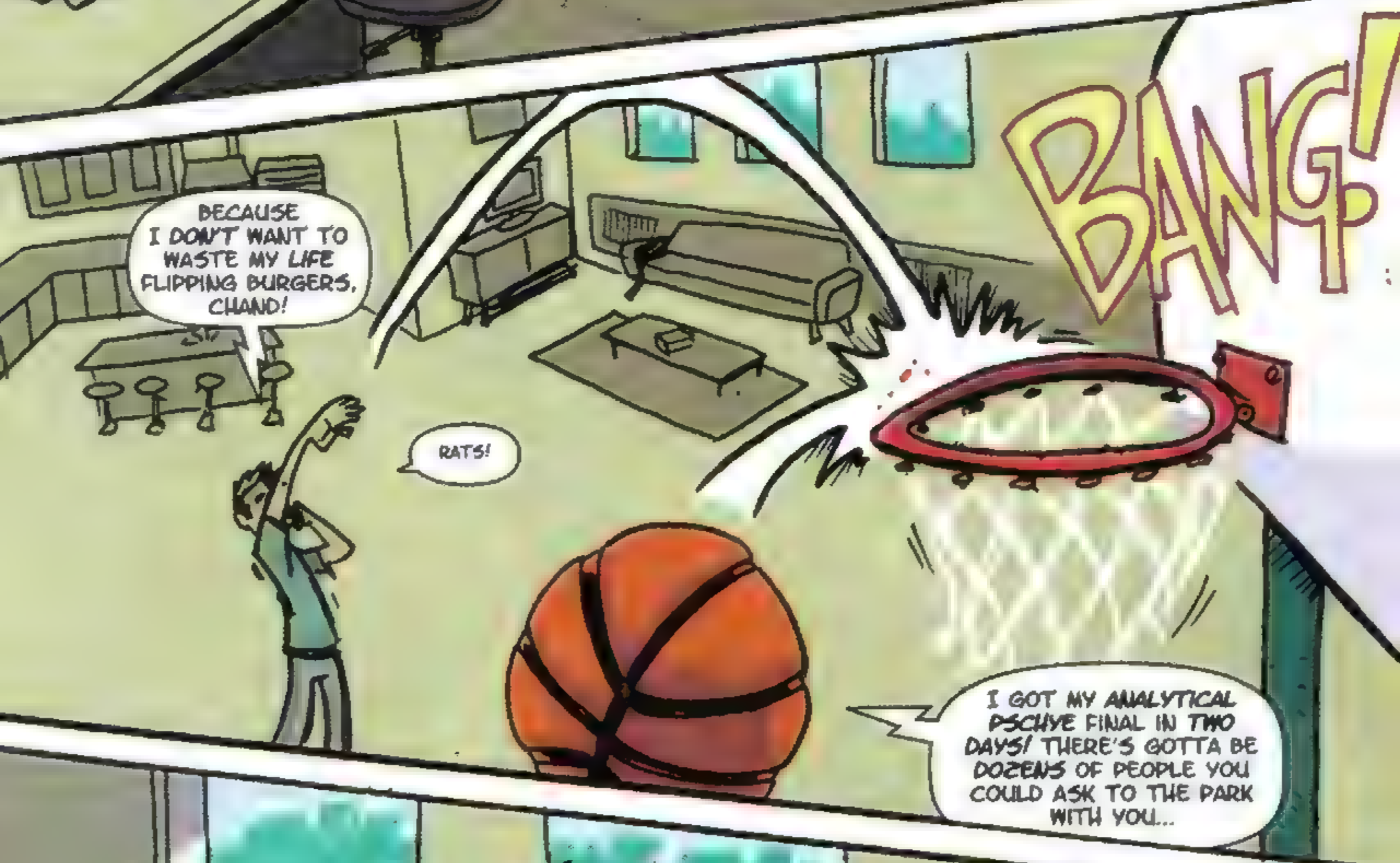
I DON'T THINK THERE WAS ANYBODY THERE, EITHER, UNLESS SHE WALKED BY REAL FAST, OR SOMETHING...



YEAH... SHE MUSTA JUST...

...BRUSHED BY ME...

...OR SOMETHING.





ONLY
YOU CAN
HEAR ME.

ONLY
YOU CAN
HELP ME.

ONLY
YOU.

CHANDLER!

CHANDLER,
CAN YOU
HEAR ME?

DON'T---
IF YOU CAN
HEAR ME--
DON'T
MOVE!

DON'T GO
ANYWHERE!

I'LL BE
RIGHT
OVER!



FOR A
MINUTE
THERE...

I THOUGHT YOU
WERE TRYING SOME
KIND OF PITY PLAY
TO GET ME TO GO
SHOOT HOOPS
WITH YOU.

I GUESS
I CAN'T
BLAME
YOU FOR
THINKING
THAT.
BUT...



...THIS IS THE
SECOND TIME THIS HAS
HAPPENED, 'VETTE. I'M
WORRIED... WHAT IF IT'S
A BRAIN TUMOR OR
SOMETHING?

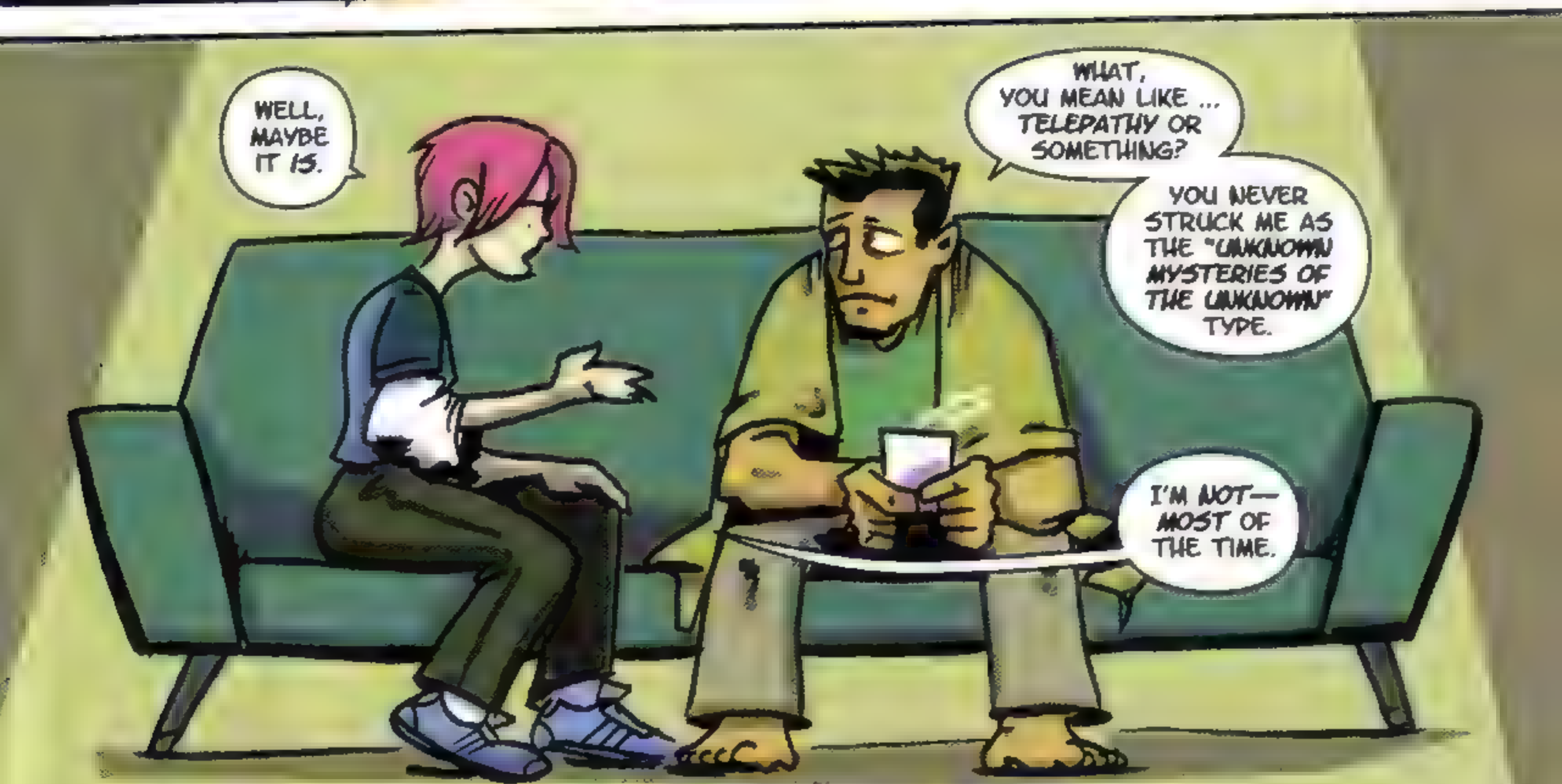
YOU SAID IT
FELT LIKE-YOU WERE
DREAMING SOMEBODY
ELSE'S DREAM?



YEAH...
I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
HOW TO
DESCRIBE
IT...

YOU KNOW...
AN OUT-OF-BODY
EXPERIENCE?

WELL,
THIS IS ALMOST
AN OUT-OF-MIND
EXPERIENCE—
LIKE MY BODY IS
HOLDING SOME-
BODY ELSE'S
THOUGHTS.



WELL,
MAYBE
IT IS.

WHAT,
YOU MEAN LIKE ...
TELEPATHY OR
SOMETHING?

YOU NEVER
STRUCK ME AS
THE "UNKNOWN
MYSTERIES OF
THE UNKNOWN"
TYPE.

I'M NOT—
MOST OF
THE TIME.



BUT MY "ISSUES IN PSYCHE" CLASS DID A WHOLE THING ON THE E.S.P. PROGRAM THE SOVIETS HAD DURING THE SEVENTIES AND EIGHTIES.

I MEAN, THEY HAD SOME OF THE TOP SCIENTISTS IN THE WORLD WORKING ON IT, AND THEY TOOK IT SERIOUSLY.

YEAH, AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BERLIN WALL.



HA, HA. ALL I'M SAYING IS, WHAT IF THIS ISN'T A VISION?

WHAT IF THIS POOR CHICK REALLY IS TRYING TO CONTACT YOU?

IF SHE'S REAL, THEN SHE'S IN REAL TROUBLE, AND SHE'S RIGHT— ONLY YOU CAN HELP HER.



WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO? I ALREADY MADE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE A NEUROLOGIST— BUT HE'S BOOKED UP UNTIL NEXT WEEK.

LOOK, IF YOU ARE... RECEIVING THOUGHTS FROM SOMEBODY ELSE'S BRAIN...



...MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY TRANSMITTING SOME.

MAKE THE CONVERSATION TWO-WAY.



"WE BREATHE
NATURALLY, PREFERABLY
THROUGH THE NOSTRILS,
WITHOUT ATTEMPTING
TO CONTROL OUR
BREATH..."

"...AND WE
TRY TO BECOME
AWARE OF THE
SENSATION OF THE
BREATH AS IT ENTERS
AND LEAVES THE
NOSTRILS."

OKAY...



WAAAAIT... I BET YVETTE AND THE
GUYS ARE ALL LAUGHING THEIR
BUTTS OFF RIGHT NOW THAT SHE
WAS ABLE TO CON ME INTO
BUYING THIS JUNK.

THIS HAS
GOT TO BE THE
DUMBEST THING
I'VE EVER
DONE...



THEY'RE
ALMOST FINISHED
WITH ME!

YYYEAAAAGHHH!!



I KNOW
MY TIME...

CH-CHEST...
IS... BURNING...



...IS
NEARLY
DONE...

OH, NO.



OH NO
OH NO OH NO
OH NO

UNLESS
YOU COME
FOR ME



WAIT...
AM I... TOTALLY
LOSING IT...

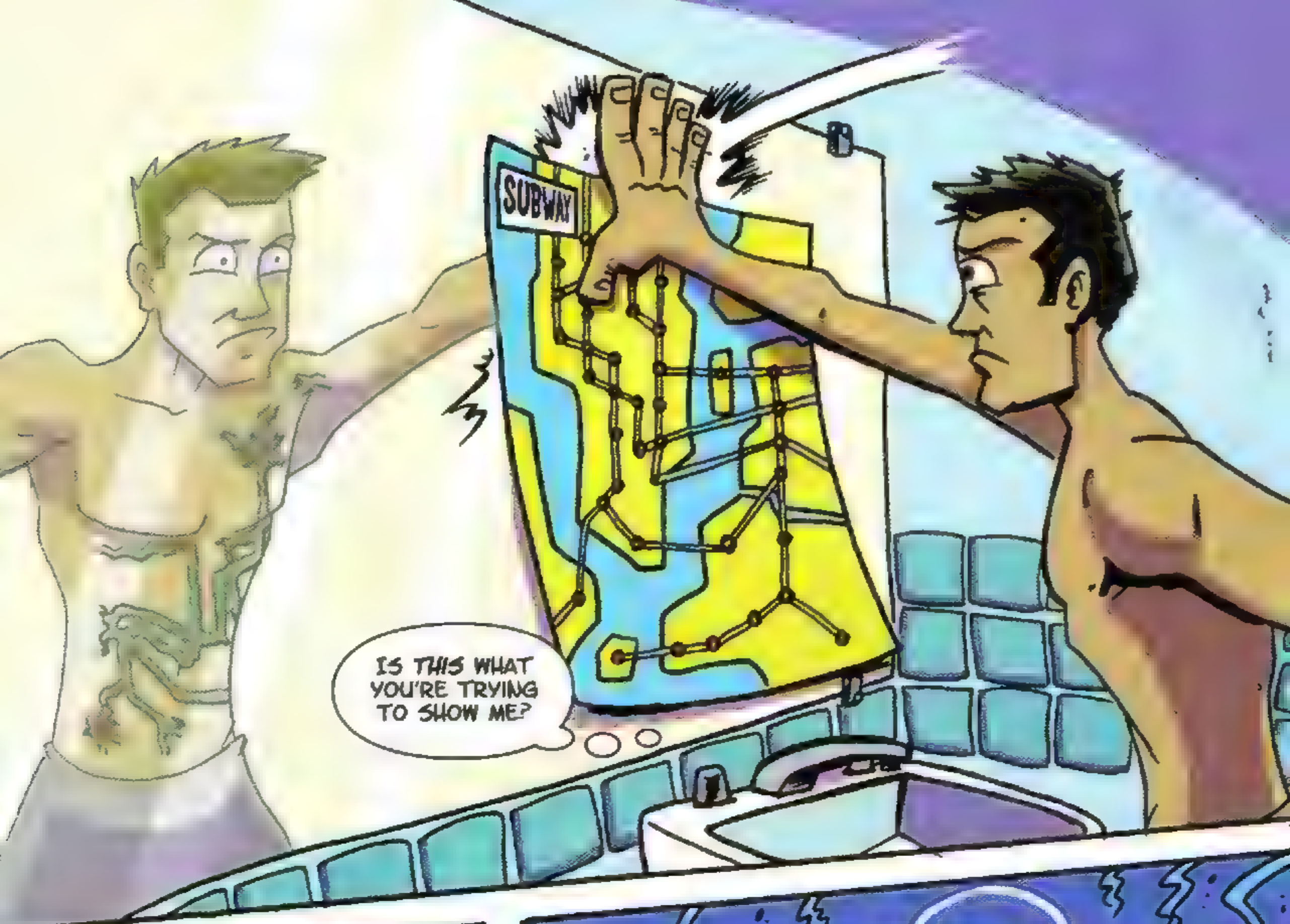
OR...
IS THAT...

... FAMILIAR~?

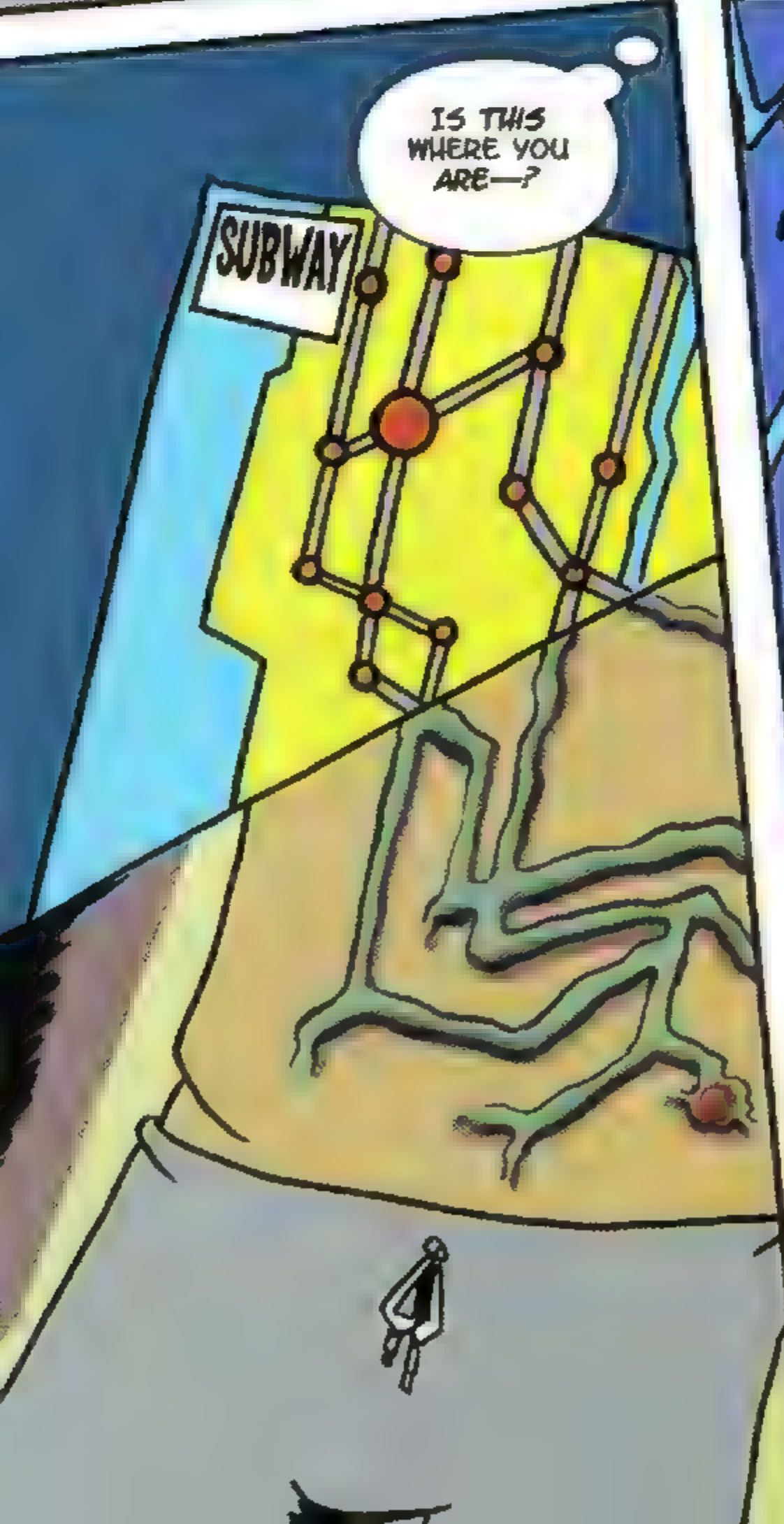


COME FOR
ME NOW

OKAY, OKAY,
KEEP YOUR
PANTS ON..



IS THIS WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SHOW ME?



IS THIS WHERE YOU ARE—?




AAAAAAAAGH!!

COME NOW!


PLEASE!!

OR IT ENDS TONIGHT!!!






HELLO?
MYSTERY GIRL?
YOU THERE?




BREAKER,
BREAKER...
COME IN, GOOD
BUDDY..

HAILING
FREQUENCIES
OPEN, ET
CETERA..



I'M HERE, IN
BRIGHTON BEACH,
THE NEIGHBORHOOD
WHERE YOU TOLD
ME TO GO.



BUT NOW
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE
TO GIVE SOME MORE
SPECIFICS TO...





I HAVE
TO KNOW!

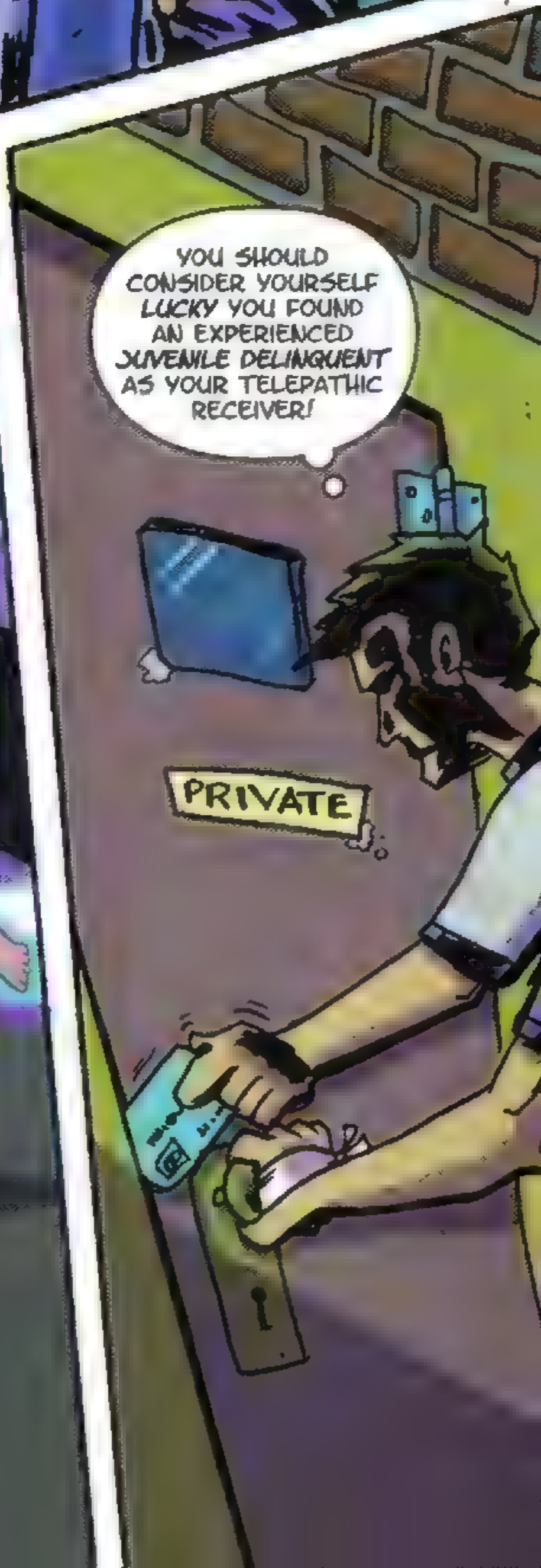


NNNNGGGG-
AAAAHH!!



YOU BETTER
BE WORTH THIS,
DREAM GIRL...

I NEVER
STUCK MY NECK
OUT FOR ANYBODY
IN MY WHOLE LIFE...



YOU SHOULD
CONSIDER YOURSELF
LUCKY YOU FOUND
AN EXPERIENCED
JUVENILE DELINQUENT
AS YOUR TELEPATHIC
RECEIVER!

PRIVATE



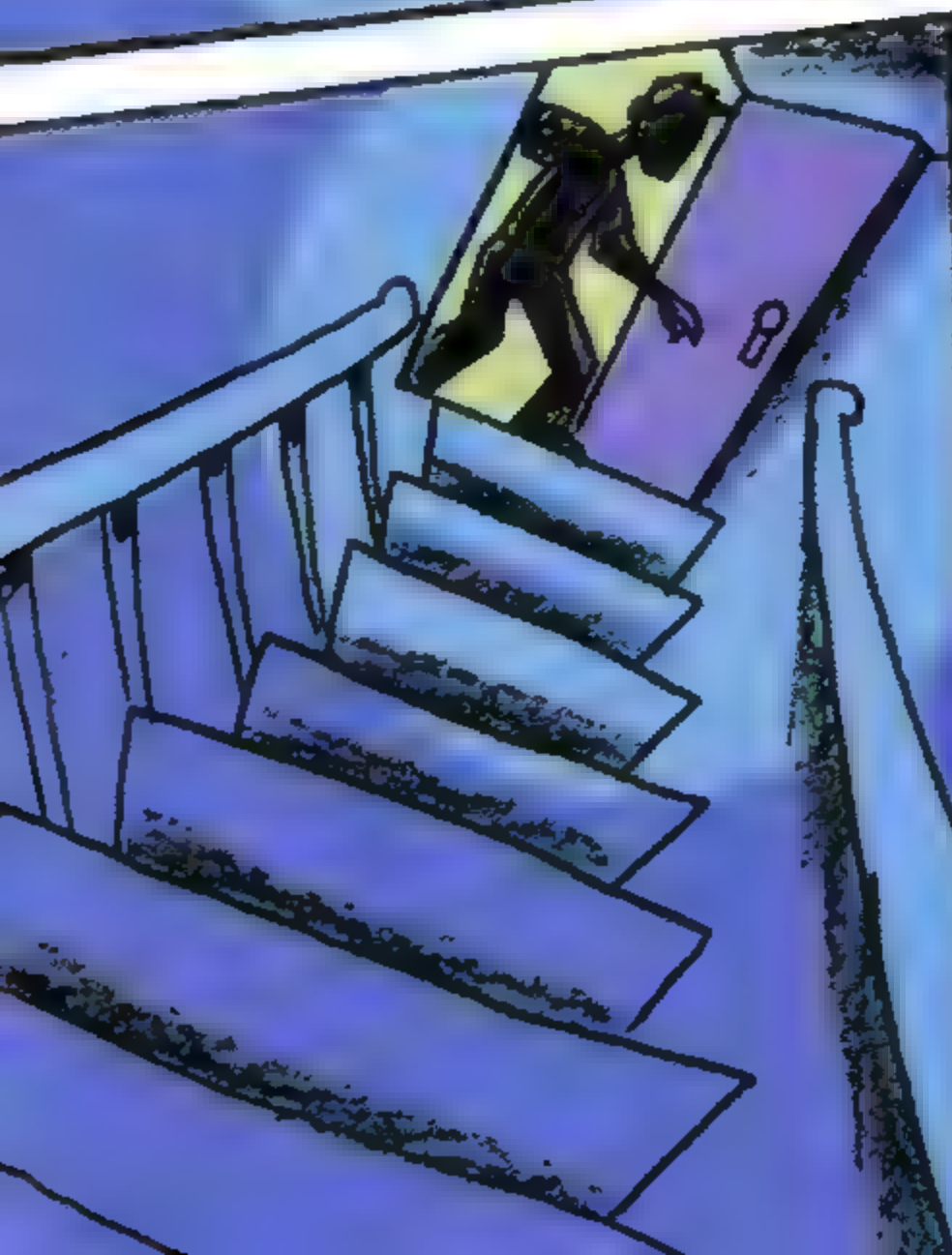
HEY ...
MAYBE SHE'S A
KIDNAPPED HEIRESS
OR SOMETHING!

MAYBE THERE'LL
BE A REWARD FOR
HER RESCUE!



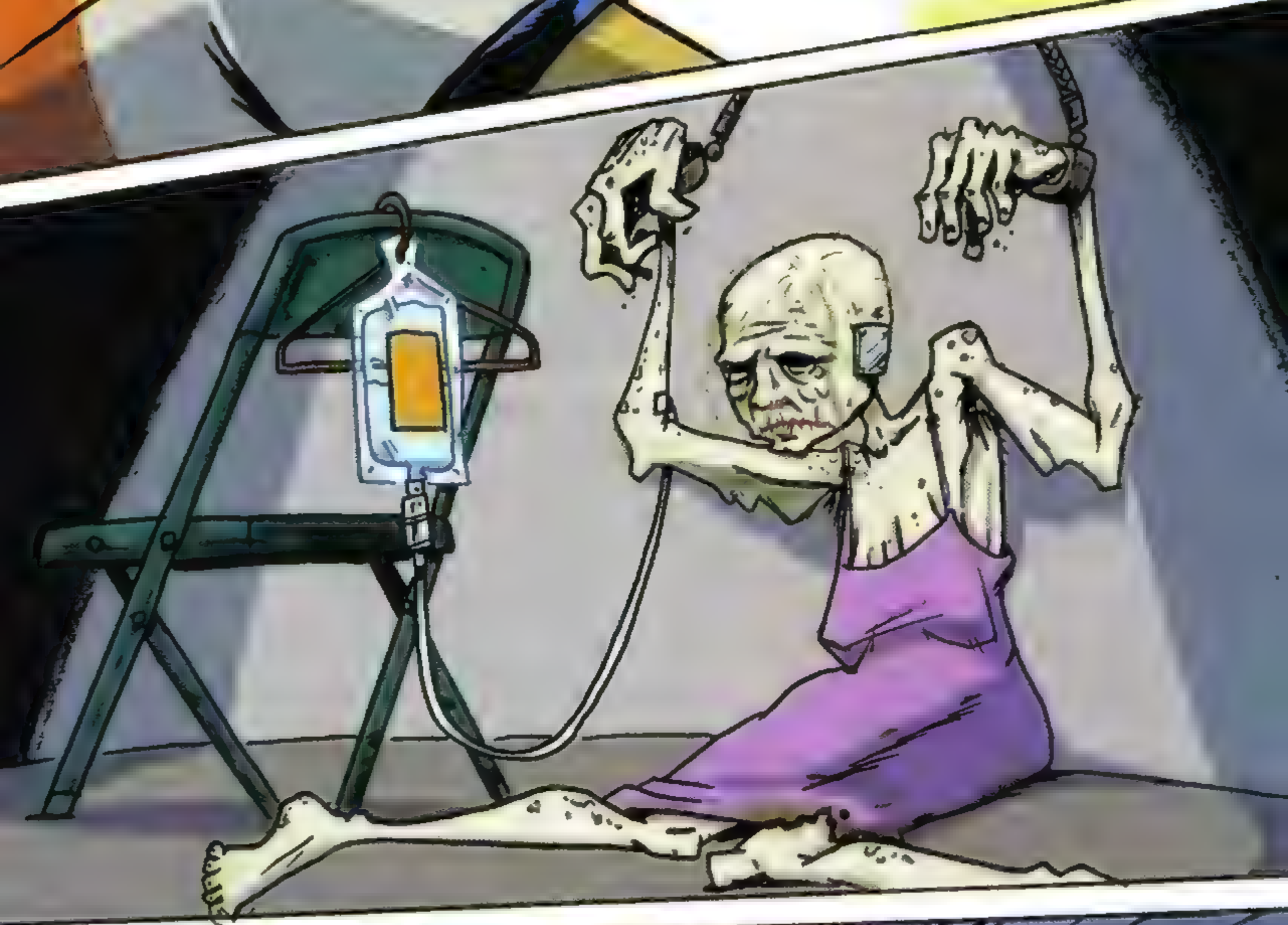
AT THE
VERY LEAST...

...I BETTER
GET A DATE
OUT OF
THIS!



HEY...
HEY, MISS?

IS THAT YOU?
IS THAT----





AAAAHHH!!

AAAGHHHH--



ZWOK!



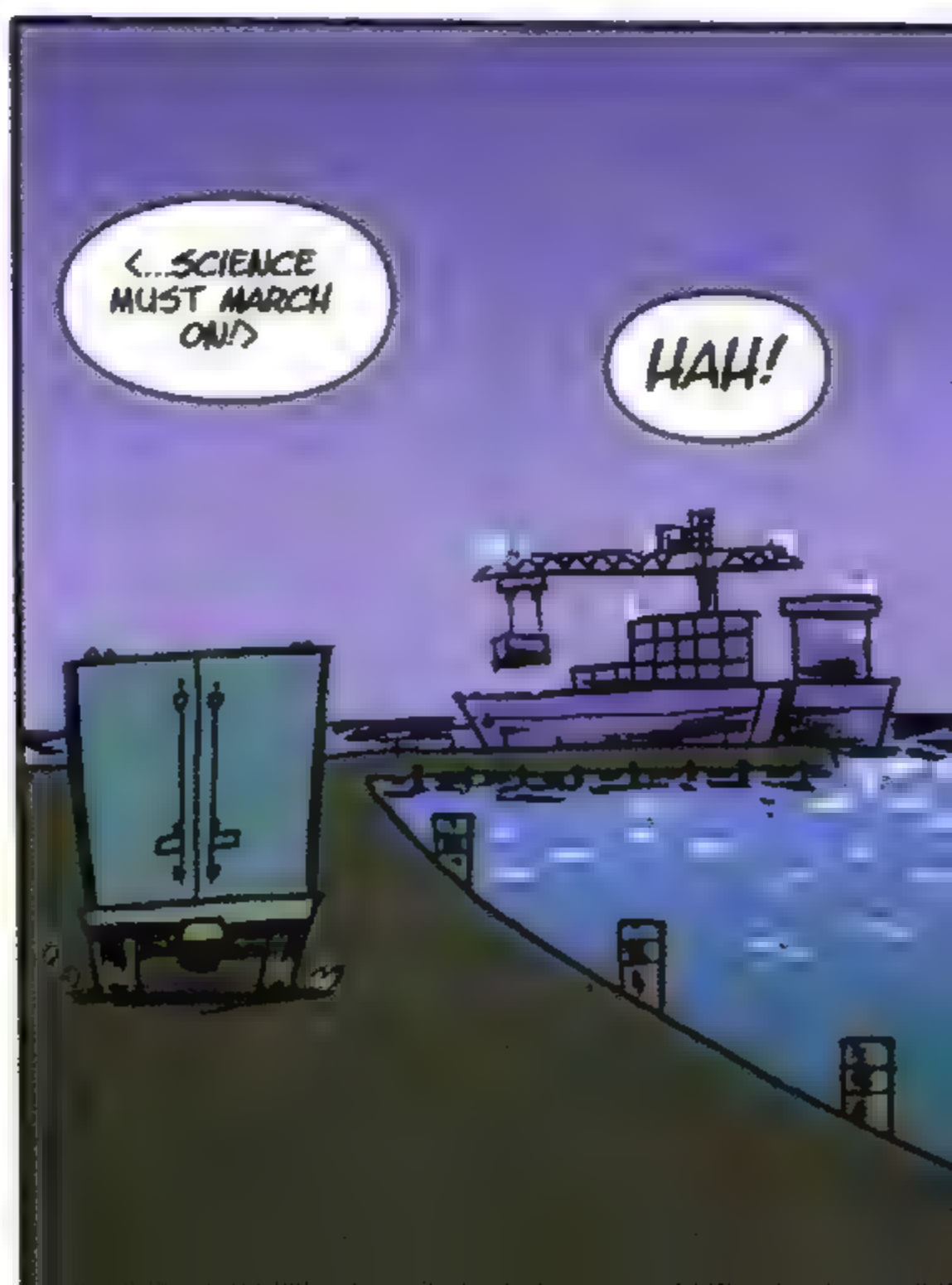
(I HATE
THE SCREAMERS
THE MOST.)


GRUNT?

(THAT'S ALL THE
TEST SUBJECTS DR.
KRYLOV NEEDS, DA?
WE COLLECTED THEM
IN RECORD TIME!)

(OUR
"BROADCASTER"
WORKED WONDERS,
AS USUAL.)

(IT'S AMAZING
HOW A PRETTY
FACE WILL DISARM
EVEN THE MOST
POWERFUL LATENT
TELEPATHS.)





Turns out
Chandler Wells was
just like every other
man - a sucker for a
pretty face!

Speaking of
suckers, the Crypt-keeper
and the Vault-keeper seemed
to have had some unfortunate
side effects to my cauldron's
creepy casserole!

>BBLLARGHFF!!<

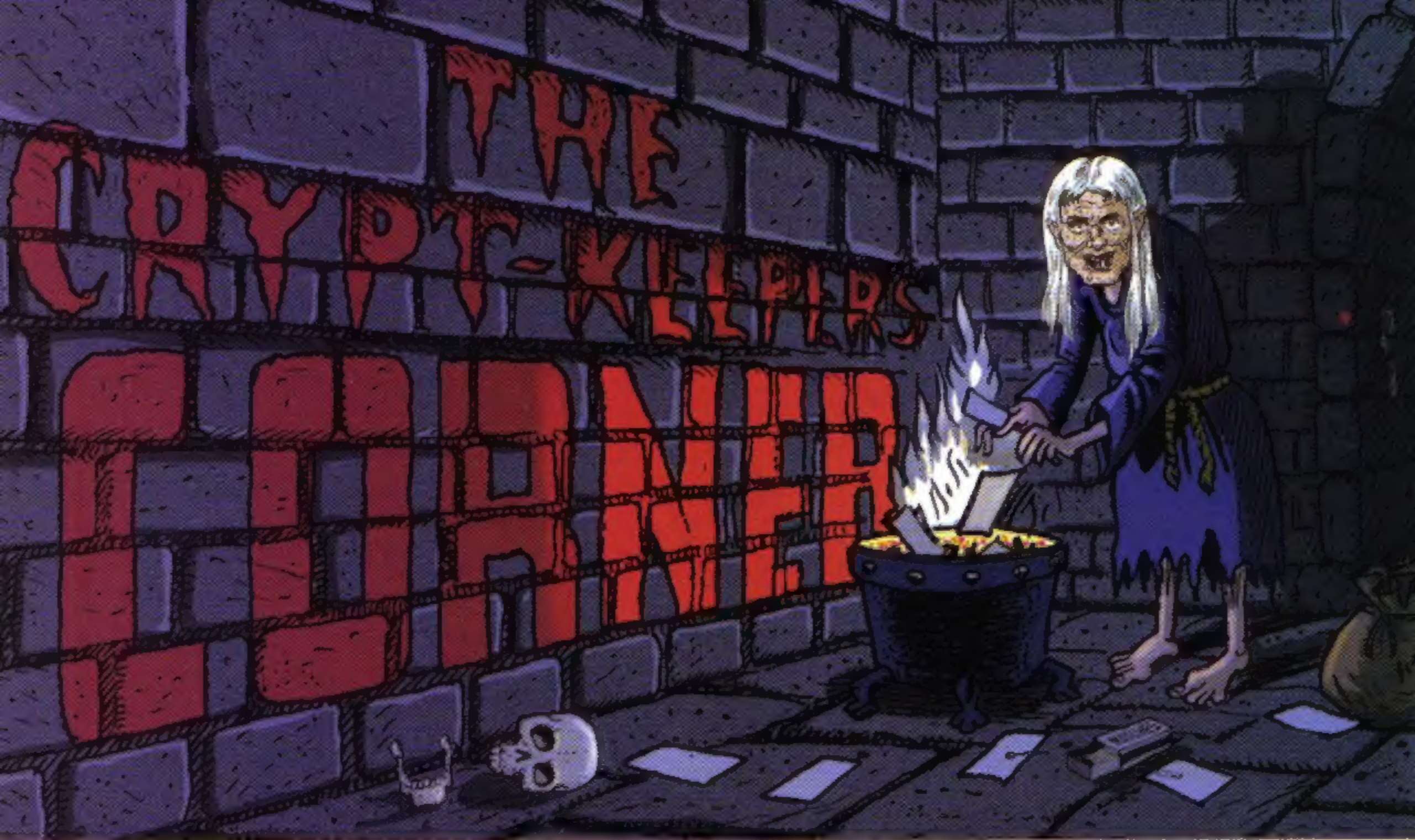
While ol'
C-K is up-chucking
in his inner
sanctum--

>BLAARRRFFF!!<

--V-K has
suddenly become
all warm and
fuzzy!

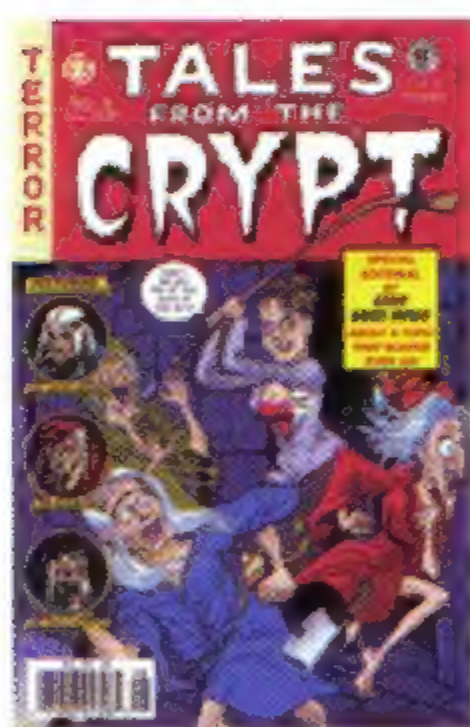
I'll get
you for this,
old witch!

If Barf-Breath is
able to get his act together
he should be ready to host his
Crypt-keeper's corner column,
featuring your countless requests
to dump him and the Fault-keeper,
and to have me take over tales
from the crypt on a permanent
basis! Be here next issue to
see if justice prevails.



BUUUURRPP!!

'Scuze me, kiddies, your ol' pal the Crypt-Keeper just had the most DREADFUL DINING experience, thanks to The Old Witch! Would you believe she made me SICK and the Vault-Keeper RAT-ATOUILLE! If she ever invites you to lunch, RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!



Meanwhile, back at the CRYPT... we're still painfully PINCHING ourselves (don't try this at home!) over all the attention last issue's SCARY SARAH PALIN cover (drawn by Ricko "the Sicko" Parker) and CATHY GAINES MIFSUD'S special editorial received!

For example, GHOULISH GEOFF (THE BUTCHER) BOUCHER of the L. A. Times wrote a GHASTLY PIECE about it, which was picked up by the Associated Press and SPLATTERED across newspapers world-wide. Geoffy wrote...

"The cover is a reference to two instances of content debate, one that played out on a national stage and the other a seemingly minor moment in Alaska that has been made major by the current political season.

"'Tales from the Crypt' became one of the signature names in horror and American pop culture after five years of memorable mayhem that ended in 1955. That was after months of intense pressure and new industry regulations targeting the lurid comics, spurred by televised Senate subcommittee hearings on juvenile delinquency and its causes.

"Palin, meanwhile, has taken heat for some overtures she made in 1996 while as mayor of Wasilla, Alaska. Criticized after reports that she sought to ban books from a local public library, the GOP candidate has said that on two occasions she asked 'a rhetorical question' about removing objectionable books from shelves, but that she never pursued it or mentioned specific titles.

"But any White House candidate who even entertains a conversation about book banning is a natural enemy to 'Tales from the Crypt,' according to Jim Salicrup, editor-in-chief of Papercutz, the publisher that revived the classic title about 16 months ago. 'This was not a partisan thing. People tend to think of everything as black and white these days -- you are either for or against one of the parties 100%. But for us this was about the history of EC Comics, the original publisher of 'Tales from the Crypt.' Anyone who knows that history knows that even of whiff of banning books is going to get us angry."

Well, la-dee-dah! Who knew Salicrup was such a POLITICAL PUN-DIT? GRUESOME GRAEME McMILLAN writing the Political Science (Fiction) column on io9 asked "Are Comics Part of the Left-Wing Media Conspiracy?" as well as...

"You may be wondering exactly what Sarah Palin's personal policies are, ahead of tonight's Vice Presidential Debate, and we're happy to help you with that: Apparently, she's anti-witch... or, at least, that's the message that we get from this cover from the October issue of the revived TALES FROM THE CRYPT. And, as this year's US Presidential election nears, this one previously non-partisan genre staple's move into editorializing against the Republican ticket is only one way in which comics are trying to get in on the action."

But the bestest POLITICALLY INCORRECT observation was online at Gawker.com, where INSANE IAN SPIEGELMAN wrote:

"The highlight of Sarah Palin's career? It's not her guest spot on SNL, or her scary stump speeches in front of screaming crazy racists. It's this cover for ... Tales from the Crypt."

But enough about that! There were two SHOCK-FILLED STORIES in TALES FROM THE CRYPT #8 as well. And while we're still tabulating the votes on which SCARE-TALE was our ROTTEN READER'S fave, we did receive a couple of RIOTOUS REACTIONS... (In the meantime, go to the TALES FROM THE CRYPT section of www.papercutz.com and vote online for your favorite story from THIS issue!)

Subject: TALES FROM THE CRYPT #8

As a long-time fan of EC Comics, I welcome the revival of TALES FROM THE CRYPT and the guest editorial by Cathy Gaines Mifsud.

As a long-time fan of EC Comics, it's interesting to see the return of the Ray Bradbury "Home to Stay" precedent (WEIRD FANTASY #13). You forgot to acknowledge Stanley G. Weinbaum's (writing as John Jessel) oft-reprinted "The Adaptive Ultimate" (originally published in Astounding Stories, November 1935) or its film adaptation SHE DEVIL (1957) as the source of "She Who Would Rule the World."

I wish you the best of luck in the future.
Leonid Doroschenko

If only we had an editor with the SCI-FI CREDITS as LEONID, then we'd really be DANGEROUS! Sadly, we're still stuck with Salicrup, and he lamely pleads that the correct credits in both TALES FROM THE CRYPT comic #8 and graphic novel # 5 should have read:

"SHE WHO WOULD RULE THE WORLD"
(BASED ON "THE ADAPTIVE ULTIMATE"
BY STANLEY G. WEINBAUM)
ADAPTED BY
CHRISTIAN ZANIER
WRITER, ARTIST, LETTERER, COLORIST,
MARVIN MARIANO
COLORIST

Dear Crypt-Keeper,

Just wanted to make a few comments about TFTC #8. "She Who Would Rule the World" was very well done. Both the story and the art were great. Very enjoyable. As for "Virtual Hoodoo," it was passable, but did not do much for me. One thing I found hilarious... Bart's left hand shot up from the crypt when the monsters called upon him. In and of itself, not funny. However, when you consider his left arm was ripped off by Crazy

Skeleton Man just three pages earlier... pretty funny!

In closing, I'd just like to thank you for bringing back this classic title. Also, thank you for having a letters page. The lettercol is such a great aspect of comicbooks, and so few still have them.

Sincerely,
Mark Robinson
Colorado Springs, CO

Hey, Mark, did you ever think that those other comics don't have letter columns 'cause they can't get Yours Truly to write 'em in my world-famous HORRIFIC style? Let's face it, how can they really compete with me?

Dear Crypt-Keeper,

Hello my name is Brett, I live in England, and I am a big fan of the old TALES FROM THE CRYPT comics and I just recently purchased number 7 of the new TALES FROM THE CRYPT comics. I loved it, but here in England it is hard to get hold of your comics. So how can I subscribe? And also will I be able to back order and get the first 6 issues as well as future ones.

Brett Stephenson
England

What's the matter, Brett? Too lazy to travel to the US to get your horror comics fix? Fortunately for you there's milehighcomics.com for back issues, and barnesandnoble.com for our CADAVEROUS COLLECTED EDITIONS, available in both soft and (for those who collect STIFFS...) hard covers.

Keep those emails and letters coming - and if you've got any Pepto, we could use that too. Send letters to:

The Crypt-Keeper's Corner
40 Exchange Place, Suite 1308
New York, NY 10005

Or email your comments to the Old Editor at:
salicrup@papercutz.com

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E.C. FANS!

YOU'VE WRITTEN!

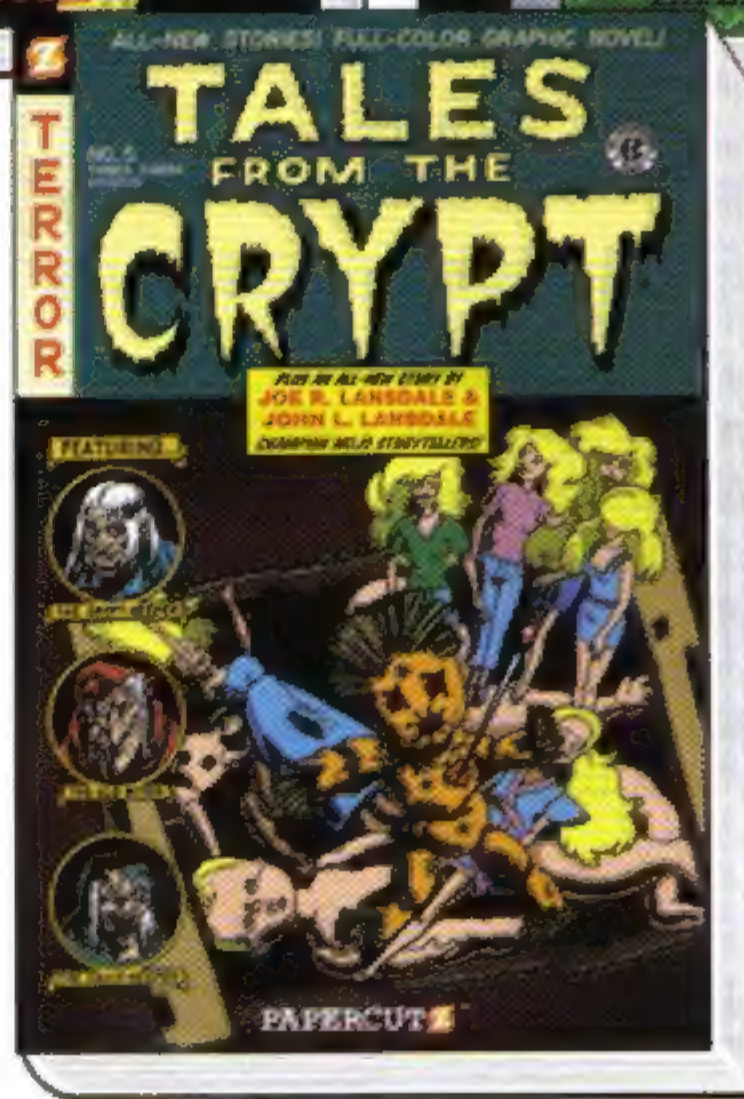
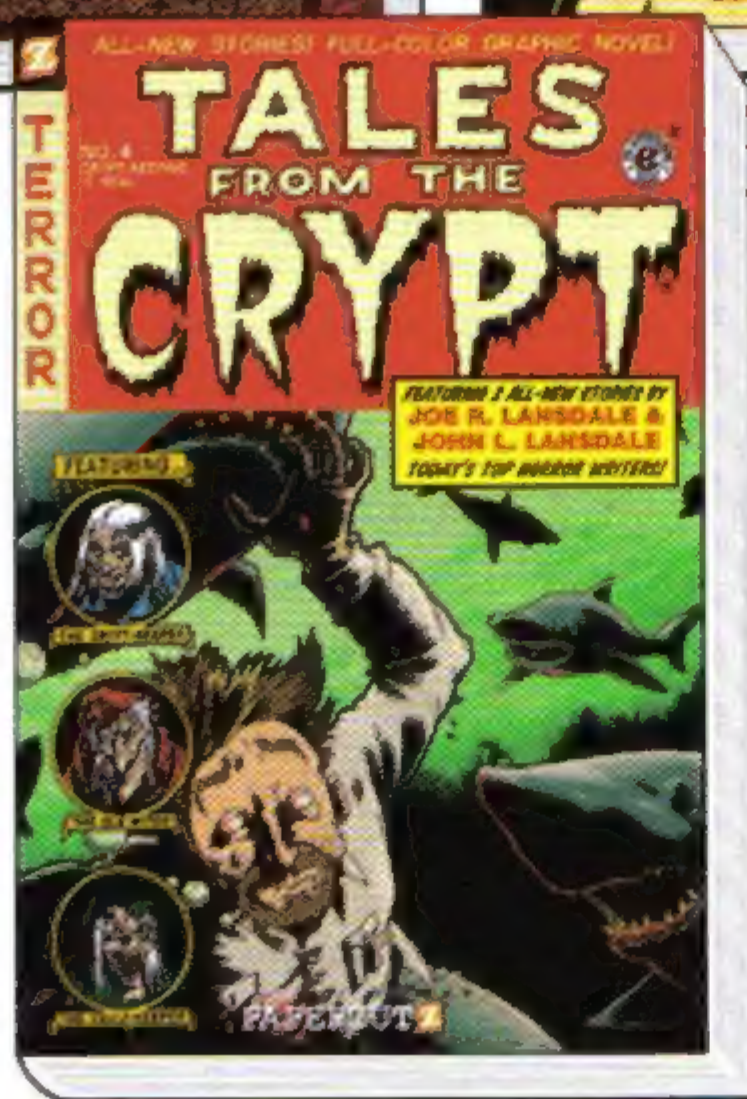
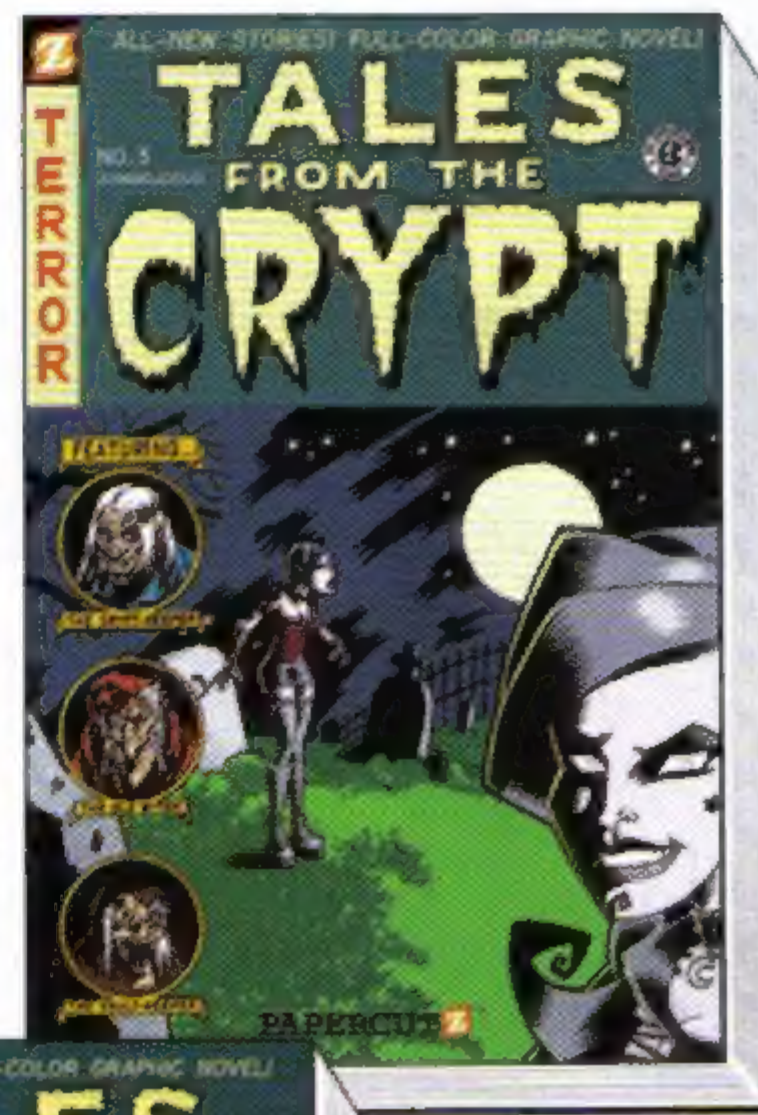
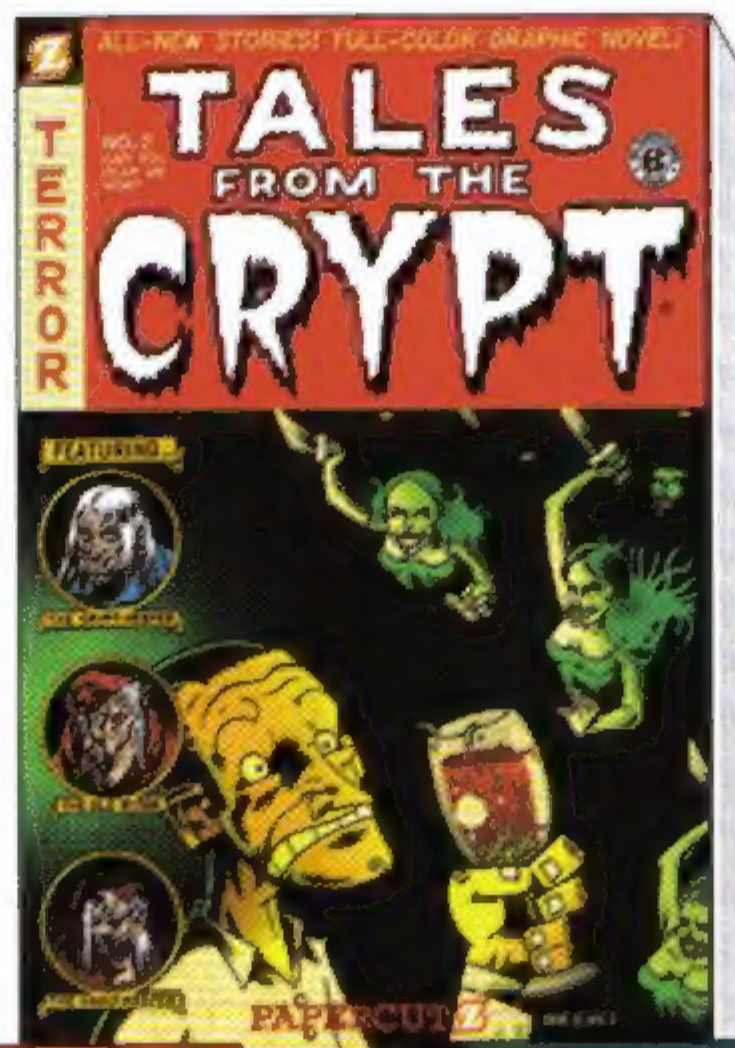
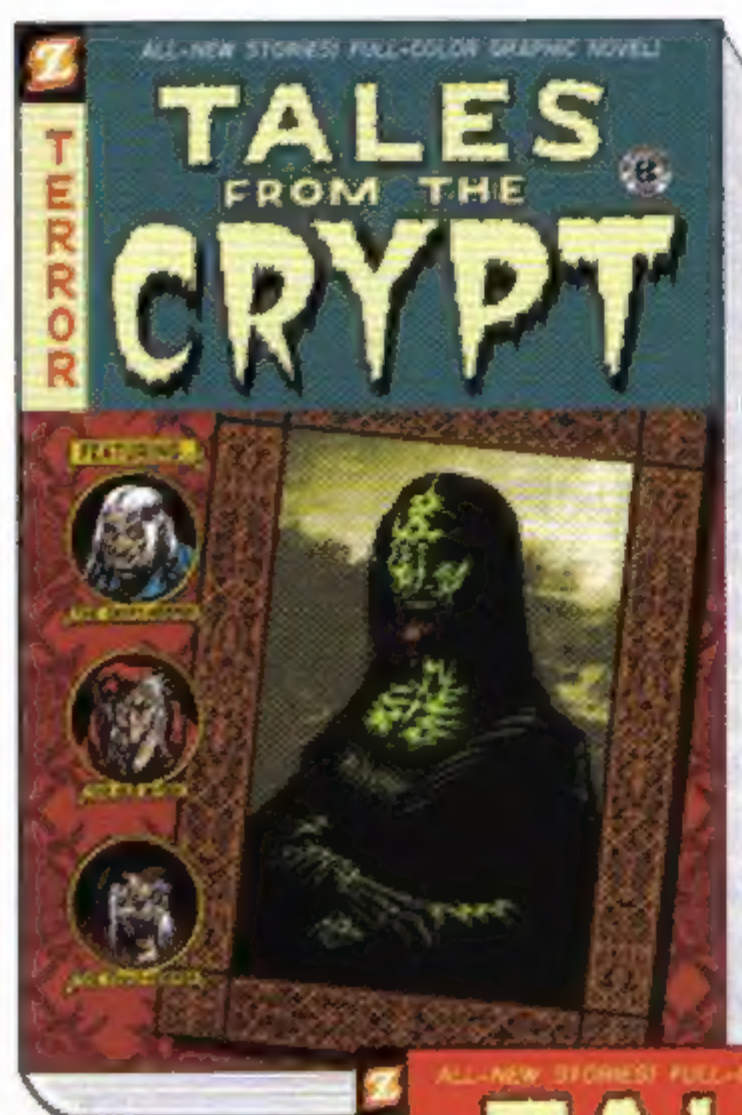
YOU'VE E-MAILED!

YOU'VE PHONED!

YOU'VE THREATENED US!

YOU'VE DEMANDED!

(BUT WE'RE COMING OUT WITH
THESE COLLECTIONS ANYWAY!)



COLLECTING STORIES BY BILGREY, CABRAL, MR.EXES, GNIEWEK,
HUDSON, KAPLAN, KLEID, LANSDALE, LOBDELL, MANNION,
MARTINEZ, MCGREGOR, MURASE, NOETH, PETRUCHA, ROMBERGER,
SIMMONS, SMITH 3, TODD, VELILLA and VOLLMAR!

ON SALE NOW AT BOOKSTORES EVERYWHERE!

WildBlueZero

